

OUTWEEK

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Hyperthermia
Gets
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DYKE WOODSTOCK

INSIDE
THE MICHIGAN
WOMEN'S MUSIC
FESTIVAL



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Underground



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ON THE COVER

(l. to r.) Zoe Lewis, Lynn Howard, Deanna Renee photographed by Barbara Seyda at the Michigan Women's Music Festival

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The Road Not Taken

The history of AIDS is the history of illusive hopes. From the first hint that a killer was loose among us, through the dark years of powerlessness, to the current, partially successful, seizure of medical control by activists and community researchers, one thing has remained constant: the propensity of "cures" for AIDS to appear like clockwork and the willingness of the press to trumpet these "cures" to the avid, desperate population affected by HIV.

Such is apparently the case with the hyperthermia treatment that hit the TV news this summer. A NIAID investigation now indicates that hyperthermia is a complete bust, without the slightest "clinical, immunologic or virologic" effectiveness. In response, New York's Gay Men's Health Crisis issued a statement deplored "the apparent exploitation of people with HIV" who were "led to pay incredible prices" for the useless treatment.

The GMHC statement continues, "We are equally disturbed by the careless broadcast media coverage of hyperthermia, which led many people with HIV to believe it could cure them." GMHC concluded that, in the future, the media should be "more responsible so that people with HIV are not exploited again."

For those of us active in the fight against AIDS, the press often can do no right. One moment, we're demonstrating against media outlets which ignore the epidemic. The next, we're forced to protest reckless, out-of-control stories about unproven treatments that send PWAs on pointless roller coasters of hope and despair. There must be a happy medium between a total news blackout of unproven treatments, on the one hand, and, on the other, front-page screaming headlines of any promising therapy.

No one involved in AIDS wants the media to continue adhering to the kind of schoolbook stringency that had reporters simply parroting "proven" therapies reprinted from medical journals or government press releases. The AIDS experience has thoroughly discredited that brand of journalistic laziness. We need an inquisitive, open-minded medical press to off-set the narrow-mindedness of much of the medical establishment. Even in this instance, for example, a case can be made that articles about hyperthermia, exaggerated though they were, were what prompted NIAID to launch its investigation, an investigation which will now save people's time, money and health.

But the overblown manner in which hyperthermia was reported, particularly by the Cable News Network, was unnecessary and exploitative. By accepting the claim of a single doctor—based on evidence from a single patient—and making it the foundation for a week-long, front-page, top-of-the-hour press extravaganza, false hopes were inevitably raised. And this is hardly the first time such stories have been hyped. From *The New York Times'* articles on bone-marrow transplants to the *Village Voice's* Compound Q cover story to practically everything in the *Native*, the press has consistently seen profit in promoting cure-mania. Anyone connected to the epidemic knows how debilitating it can be when hopes are recurrently lifted and dashed.

Between skepticism and naivete, silence and sensationalism, lies the proper road for AIDS journalism. It's a road of careful inquiry, applied intelligence and editorial integrity. Unfortunately, for too many journalists, it's still the road not taken.

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LETTERS

ON "G" AND "H" WORDS

When FAIRPAC and the New York State Lesbian and Gay Lobby began discussing the consolidation process now underway, a great deal of planning went into the selection of the name for the new organization. Professionally moderated "focus groups" were held in New York City and upstate. People were asked their responses to names and words to generate ideas and guidelines for the new name. Participants included not only "activist" types but also "average folks," if you will—people who do not consider themselves political, but who might donate money or volunteer time on an ad hoc basis for an organization working for the advancement of lesbian and gay rights through political action and lobbying.

Among the topics addressed was the inclusion of the words "gay" and "lesbian" in the name of the new organization. We had brothers and sisters upstate (and in the city) who said pointblank it would be difficult for them and people they knew. It is not being condescending to acknowledge the reality that it is one thing to have your banking done anonymously through a Citicorp cash machine, quite another to deal face-to-face with the tellers at the local savings-and-loan. Our job as an organization is to help create an environment where such fear is unnecessary, but we're not there yet. The fact that some people must "still surrender to the demands of the closet" is indeed sad, but a fact nonetheless.

An argument can be made that the name could include the "G" and "L" words and be abbreviated with only the initials on checks, return envelopes and so on. But another feeling strongly expressed in the focus groups

was that people were tired of acronyms and initials that don't mean anything—participants wanted real words (like "pride," "fair" and "rights") that have an emotional impact.

Part of our mission in a political organization is outreach and education—including outreach to people who need to get mail in a small town or in a building in New York City where the low number of apartments exempts it from the protections of Intro Two (the 1986 Gay Rights Bill). So the question for the organization becomes, How can you reach people who have concerns about getting mail from you? How can you keep them informed?

To pretend that the name of an organization does not have a financial impact is naive: Donations to The National Lesbian and Gay Task Force are dwarfed by those to the Human Rights Campaign Fund, and FAIRPAC has been able to raise funds more successfully than NYSLGL.

Sadly, not all of us are able to live in "fabulous outness"—as *OutWeek's* own name demonstrates. One asks the man at the newsstand for *OutWeek*—not "the lesbian and gay news magazine." The fact that subscription copies are mailed in a discrete envelope attests to the existence of fear and bigotry which the consolidation of FAIRPAC and NYSLGL will continue to fight, but which lamentably still exists.

Candida Scott Piel
Executive Director
FAIRPAC
Manhattan

OUTWEEK TIDE

Mine is one West Coast voice which thinks *OutWeek* continues to be the most courageous gay magazine in the country—

also the best written. From "Outing" to "I Hate Straights," you present difficult, but thought-provoking articles which force us to reexamine our internal and external realities. This is critical as our movement enters its third decade, a time when we can fall into complacency or be brave enough to delve into new frontiers (issues) which will push us forward.

OutWeek continues to remind me of the controversial dynamism of *The Lesbian Tide*, the national lesbian feminist newsmagazine of the '70s which first tackled issues like S/M and outing major feminist leaders of the '70s. We got in trouble for that too!

So, keep up the tough fight,

OutWeek. You are a breath of fresh air and continue to remind me of our old street chant: "Gay is better than straight!"

Jeanne Cordova
former publisher,
The Lesbian Tide

ELECTION REMINDER

Tuesday, Sept. 11, is primary day, and this year, lesbian and gay voters in most parts of Manhattan south of 14th Street have an unprecedented opportunity to elect one of our own to the state Legislature.

Deborah Glick, an openly lesbian candidate for state Assembly, has an excellent shot at being the first gay legislator in New York state and the first openly gay publicly elected offi-

STONEWALL RIOTS

BY ANDREA NATALIE



cial in New York City.

Deborah can't win unless all her supporters go out and vote. Don't let this historic opportunity pass us by. We can win this one, but each and every one of us must do our part. And then we can have one hell of a victory party Sept. 11.

John Magisano
President
GLD
Manhattan

ARTISTS, ART+POSITIVE AND AIDS

"AIDS Is Killing Artists/Now Homophobia Is Killing Art" is clearly a message directed to the public about a specific group (artists) and how they are affected by AIDS and homophobia.

Last week's Lookout page (no. 62, Sept. 5) featured a photograph of the poster with the above message altered to read: "AIDS Is Killing/Now Homophobia Is Killing."

We object to Sarah Schulman's and Kathryn Thomas' inappropriate commentary characterizing our original message as elitist.

As a group of artists and members of ACT UP, Art+Positive addresses the connection between AIDS phobia, homophobia and the current censorship of lesbian and gay culture.

OutWeek's commentary is irresponsible and divisive and distorts our basic message.

Art+Positive

Sarah Schulman and Karen Thomas' comment last week on Art+Positive's message, "AIDS Is Killing Artists/Now Homophobia Is Killing Art," was petty and inaccurate. There is nothing elitist about the poster and T-shirt. Its language is not even exclusionary. It simply speaks about a particular part of our community which has been disproportionately hit hard by AIDS and homophobia.

What does Schulman want, a laundry list of every group which has lost members to AIDS? Does she really think that

Art+Positive was saying that AIDS is killing only artists? Of course, AIDS kills, and homophobia kills; that should be self-evident to any gay or lesbian with more than a functional brain stem. I would hope that in the future the editors of *OutWeek* would be more sensitive to how comments like Schulman and Thomas' encourage inappropriate and unnecessary infighting and division within the lesbian and gay community.

Sam Grubman, M.D.
(white, Jewish, male)
Manhattan

It is pathetic and against the spirit of working together that *OutWeek* features the alteration of the message, "AIDS Is Killing Artists/Now Homophobia Is Killing Art," posters in the Lookout page as something politically correct.

Sarah [Schulman] and Kathryn [Thomas], your dim-witted cheap shot that this message is now improved because it has been generalized and diluted to read "AIDS Is Killing/Homophobia Is Killing" only adds to the ignorance that has made the struggle against AIDS, homophobia and arts censorship so difficult in communities deeply affected by AIDS. Yeah, every cab driver in New York City knows AIDS kills, and most of the people I know with AIDS, or dead from it, are artists. Specific messages about AIDS and homophobia and how it affects people, whether they are Asian, Black, children, hemophiliacs, Latino, women or artists is critical in order to inform the public how these groups are being ravaged by AIDS, and separated and oppressed by homophobia and censorship.

You say the message is elitist? Look in the mirror, improve your writing skills.

Dennis Davidson
Aldo Hernandez

Sarah Schulman responds:
I wasn't aware the poster was made by Art+Positive, which usually expresses the inclusive

grief and anger we all feel. I'm concerned about this particular poster. AIDS kills many different kinds of people, and clearly artists' lives are not more important than other people's lives.

There has been virtually no research on women with AIDS, even though it is the highest cause of death for Black women in NYC. Women with AIDS cannot get disability benefits because their symptoms are different than men's. Poor children with AIDS have only begun access to pentamidine this week. Public housing tenants cannot inherit a lease after a lover dies of AIDS, while renters in private buildings can. These injustices are faced by large numbers of people in this city with very little notice.

Right now there is a lot of media attention on artists. We can use this access plus our resources, imagination and skill on behalf of all people who must fight AIDS and homophobia, instead of focusing primarily on artists.

CORPORATE CONSISTENCY?

The controversy surrounding our support to North Carolina Sen. Jesse Helms is being widely discussed in an atmosphere devoid of facts. An extremist group claiming to represent the entire gay community has called for a boycott of our products—particularly Marlboro cigarettes and Miller beer—to protest our support to Sen. Helms.

Philip Morris Companies Inc. was among the first American corporations to assist in AIDS research and AIDS-related efforts. Our company-wide contributions in this area will reach more than \$1 million by this fall.

Philip Morris is one of the nation's leading corporate supporters of the arts and is currently sponsoring a campaign to increase public awareness of the Bill of Rights, a document which enshrines the principles of individual freedom and free expression.

We were one of the first corporations to denounce discrimina-

BLURT OUT

TO OUTWEEK YOU'RE NOTHING...

Sandra Bernhard is the grossest. The grossest. But, it's sad that we care. Holding out little arms pats, we beckon for recognition, for "role models"—all of those rice balls with which to nourish our distended bellies. Well, it's time to give up that tired gig. The future's full of hairballs. Sit up and cough, sisters and brothers.

Bernhard is, rather predictably yet pathetically, the latest bubblehead to have been lobotomized by her own greed and megalomania. So busy was our dear Sandra, cramponing her way up the sheer face of the Hollywood sign, that she forgot to protest the insertion of a large, sterilized needle into the base of her skull. Oops. Too late now. The upshot? Sample this rich fare from *People*: "If I'm with a man, it's because I'm with a man. If I'm with a woman, you know, every woman that I'm seen with I'm not sleeping with. I'm not a lesbian, and I'm sick of being called one. I'm not, and I want to set the record straight."

Now, far be it for a progressive gay and lesbian mag to question peoples' sexual choices or to impede the right of others to formulate their own self-identity. Just a few questions. Why is it that Hollywood, that most rigid and homophobic of environments, forces people to become so open, so fluid, so over "narrow" definitions of their sexuality? And why, when they have one movie out and are shooting another with Bruce Willis, do they chafe so at "being called one." Guess what, Sandy? You made it to Hollywood on the backs of lezzies and fags. Appealing to that following or, at the very least, not excoriating them, makes sense. Financial sense—probably the only kind you have any more.

—Sarah Pettit

tion and to support equal opportunity regardless of race, creed, color or choice of lifestyle.

Our support for Sen. Helms (or for that matter, any other politician) is not an endorsement of the senator's position on the entire political spectrum. We have supported many candidates for public office whose outlook on many issues is diametrically opposed to that of Sen. Helms and will no doubt continue to do so.

Our contribution to the Jesse Helms Center, at Wingate College, in North Carolina, is in support of scholarly work, not of Sen. Helms. Its purpose is not political, nor could it be under the rules of its charter. It is educational, a fact explicit in its nonprofit status granted by the IRS.

We see no contradiction in our support to Sen. Helms and our support to other candidates and causes. All those decisions arise from our commitment to our business, to our stockholders and employees and to being a good corporate citizen in our communities.

In the same spirit, we ask those who disagree with Sen. Helms to understand that we, like they, are trying to do right as we see it and to act for the best in a complicated world.

*Guy L. Smith IV
Vice President, Corporate
Affairs
Philip Morris
Manhattan*

Gabriel Rotello replies:
Calling the groups who initiated the boycotts "extremist" is misleading and offensive.

We don't believe your figure of \$1 million, but in any case your efforts on the AIDS crisis, while necessary, hardly "address the special needs of the gay community." The gay community is not the AIDS community, and AIDS is not a gay disease, in case you hadn't noticed. However, your support for arch-homophobe Helms certainly addresses the special

needs of those who would like to see us dead.

Your campaign to support public awareness of the Bill of Rights is a laughable joke in light of your massive support for the politician who most frequently attacks those rights.

By the way, those with AIDS intensely object to being called "victims." The polite and sensitive term is "people with AIDS."

THE WRONG BEER NOW

It is unfortunate to learn that some of our gay brothers and sisters continue to believe that the Miller Brewing Company is a "friend" of the gay community. I learned firsthand that it certainly is not.

After seven years as an employee in good standing with the Miller Brewing Company, I was fired for what was obviously a disguised reason for their desire to rid themselves of an out, open homosexual. This leads to the question of why Miller so readily discriminated against a gay person.

It is true that some of Miller's distributors (independent businesses) have been described as being "good" to the community. Those distributors know where a good portion of their profits come from and attempt to make a token gesture to acknowledge this, but are they or is the brewery itself, spending a proportionate amount of promotional dollars back into gay accounts, community organizations and publications?

This is certainly the case with regard to the Black and Hispanic market because Miller is keenly aware of the ramifications that they will have to deal with if those communities are unfairly treated. These dollars are not returned to the gay community as they should be; the Miller Brewing Company and some of its distributors are totally unresponsive to our community. No special marketing effort is directed by Miller for the very large gay market

that exists.

Miller is not a "friend" of the gay community and we should not spend our dollars on their products.

*William P. Clardiello
Staten Island*

LOST CUSTOMER

My boyfriend, Timmy Douglas, died one year ago this week. For him, it was the end of nine months of suffering with AIDS. For me, it was the beginning of a time of pain and loneliness that I had never thought possible, feelings all too familiar to the people who read *OutWeek*.

We spent those nine months scrambling for something that would make it better. New drugs seemed to be on the horizon, but they were out of reach because American leadership was unwilling to mobilize to save lives. We were reduced to issues of emotional support, dietary supplements, spiritualism and behavioral changes that are the last resort of the disenfranchised in the scientific age.

The bitterness I feel now is toward the individuals, institutions and elements of government that mobilized to actively inhibit efforts to advance research, provide treatment, find a cure and allow some comfort for people with AIDS and their loved ones. Senator Jesse Helms is such a person, Philip Morris is such an institution and together they perpetuate that element of government.

There is a movement afoot in the gay community to claim the social and political franchise that is ours for the taking. The boycott of the Philip Morris brand products, Miller beer and Marlboro cigarettes, lends voice to that movement. The reality is that the boycott is in effect! The debate over whether or not to boycott as a community has been decided. What remains is the extent to which the gay consumer and the gay businessperson will support the community,

and the resulting claims we can make as a political power.

The sale or purchase of a bottle of Miller equals profits for Miller equals profits for Philip Morris equals funding for the reelection of Senator Jesse Helms equals an attack on the gay community.

When times were good and life was a joy, Timmy and I spent a lot of time in the gay bars and clubs of New York. I drank Heineken, Timmy drank Miller Lite. I wonder if Miller misses him as a customer? I want them to know just how much I miss him.

*Bill Kavanah
Manhattan*

GIVING TO GANTT

I was very interested in the article which appeared in the Aug. 22, 1990, issue of *OutWeek* [no. 60] entitled "No Time For Miller Time." It was a great history lesson.

I do support the boycott of Miller and Philip Morris, but, we need to look at ways of unseating Jesse Helms! I propose that we take some of the money we choose to boycott against Miller and Philip Morris and send it to Harvey Gantt. It is simple: Harvey Gantt cannot win without money! Print Harvey Gantt's campaign address on every page. Boycotting Philip Morris alone will not unseat Jesse. But money in Harvey Gantt's campaign fund may.

Thanks for your wonderfully radical vehicle, which I do not always agree with, but stand in utter awe and amazement of, at other times.

*Danny E. White
Miami, Fla.*

Contributions to Harvey Gantt's Senate campaign can be sent to: Harvey Gantt for U.S. Senate, 700 E. Stonewall St. Suite 655, Charlotte, NC 28202.

—Ed.

REVERSE IDIOTISM

As a concerned resident of the Jackson Heights/Elmhurst

area, I attended the memorial service/anti-violence rally in response to the brutal murder of Julio Rivera in an anti-gay attack a few weeks previously.

Many of the speakers made the important point of linking this anti-gay attack to the bias-related violence motivated by bigotry, such as racist violence against Blacks, Arabs, Asians, etc. One speaker who made this point very effectively was Dr. Marjorie Hill.

I was shocked and dismayed when a white man who was participating in the rally heckled Dr. Hill and shouted, "What about anti-white violence?" I have no idea whether this reactionary idiot was a member of Queer Nation, as were the majority of those in attendance. If he is a member, I think Queer Nation needs to do some serious consciousness-raising among its members about the nature of prejudice and oppression.

Most bias-related violence is committed by mem-

bers of an oppressor group against others in an oppressed group who are usually judged as being "inferior." The same is true of homophobia and sexism. When is the last time you heard of a group of lesbians and gays assaulting someone for being straight, or a group of women assaulting a man or submitting to his sexual abuse?

The same is true of racist violence. Most crimes against African Americans by whites are motivated by racist bigotry. When Black-on-white violence occurs it is usually in the context of economic crimes, e.g., robbery. It is extremely rare for a white person to be attacked by Blacks on the basis of racially motivated bigotry.

When that guy shouted up "What about anti-white violence?" it is obvious that his outburst was motivated by a deep-seated racism.

Tarfach Mac Nialais
Elmhurst, NY

MAG TO MAG

The *Daily News Magazine* is pleased that *OutWeek* semi-approves [GLAAD Tidings, no. 59, Aug. 15] of our June 24 cover story on the Gay Officers Action League.

For the record, reporter Mike Santangelo's original file did quote at some length a lesbian police officer, whose remarks were subsequently removed from the story by me. While a lesbian presence might have been situationally useful to the story, this officer did not particularly illuminate your point that "lesbians and gay men face very different problems and issues when they come out on the job," and I scrubbed her on grounds of editorial redundancy. The story lost several redundant gay men as well. We assure you that the *Daily News Magazine* sought not for a minute to systematically delete lesbians from the GOAL report. Neither did we feel it necessary to make a large

point of including them purely by reason of tokenism.

Jay Maeder

Editor

Daily News Magazine

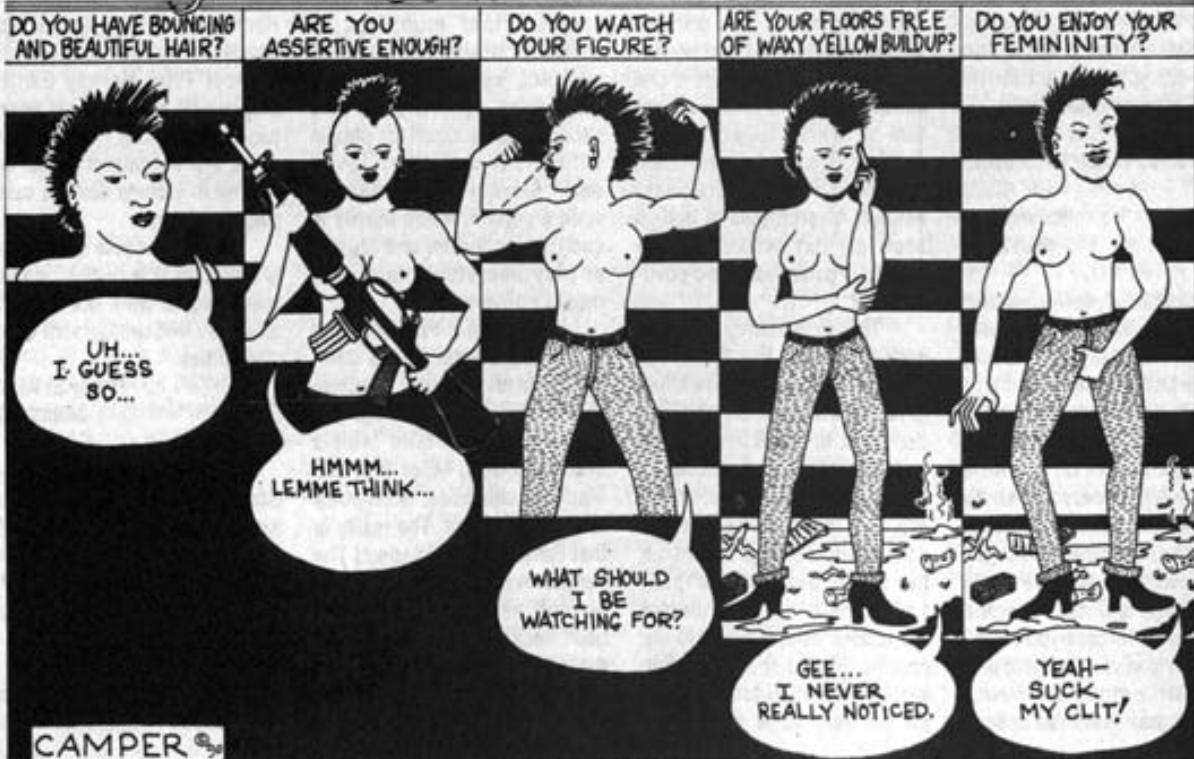
WHOOPS!

Three cheers for Michelangelo Signorile! In issue no. 61 [Aug. 29], he blasts Whoopi Goldberg about her attitude toward her near love scene with Demi Moore in the movie *Ghost*.

The director could have thrown all homophobia to the wind and just let the audience deal with seeing Oda Mae touch and kiss Mollie. We probably would have remembered that Sam was doing the touching and kissing. And so what if we did forget Sam for a moment, as soon as Carl bangs on the door the scene is over anyway.

Another thing—why is it OK for Mollie to run around looking like a 14-year-old boy? Could it be because we know she's "straight"? Why is it that when lesbians look like Mollie we're too obvious, too butch, too androgynous?

are you a CONFIDENT MODERN WOMAN?



CAMPER ©

As for Whoopi trying to live down the lesbian scene in *The Color Purple*—sadly enough, that scene can go right into the “near love scene” trash bucket. The only thing that I remember in the way of body contact in that movie was Mister kicking Celie’s ass.

Whoopi—you’re supposed to be an actress! So stop acting like playing lesbian scenes is something to be lived down!

Life could be a lot worse than getting paid to kiss the actress that played Shug Avery or Ms. Demi Moore.

And to think Whoopi—I used to love you too.

Rochelle Austin-Brown
Manhattan

40 WHACKS

We plan to remount *Lizzie Borden: An American Musical* in another venue this fall. We're going to do it again—hopefully with a longer run this time—in spite of Madam X and Ane Rubenstein's mean-spirited attack on our work [no. 62, Sept. 5] because we believe that queer theater should be seen and heard by more than the 150 or so people who screamed, clapped and cheered through our performance in spite of the heat at the Ohio Theater on August 18. With so many obstacles facing gay and lesbian artists, I'm especially sad that instead of writing this letter, I'm not writing one thanking you for your support.

Steven Cheslik-DeMeyer
Composer, *Lizzie Borden: An American Musical*

SHADES OF GRAY

I am assaulted, insulted and enraged by the heterosexism that surrounds me. I hate the compulsory, compulsive institution of heterosexuality in all its forms. But I don't hate straights.

I have two straight friends. One is an Afra-Caribbean woman whose relationship to me as a white lesbian is much like mine to her as a straight woman of color—based on an understanding that the gap between us is

narrowed by our willingness to listen and to change. Another of my straight friends is a feminist professor for whom the personal is still political; she continues to reject heterosexual privilege in her life and work, long after many of her colleagues have tempered their radicalism.

When I think about these two friends, I discover what's wrong with “I Hate Straights.” The world is not just straight and gay. It is also male and female;

black, white, brown and yellow; able-bodied and disabled; rich and poor. Power, privilege and oppression are exercised along all these divisions and more. As a woman, I share life experiences and political realities with straight women that I do not share with gay men. Indeed, I have seen more sexism among my gay male friends than homophobia among my straight female friends. For white men, homophobia may be the only obstacle

to a fairly privileged existence, and hating straights seems to make sense. For lesbians and gay people of color, the world is a little more complex.

I don't care whether hating straights is nice. Sometimes it feels great to say, “I hate men,” “I hate whites,” or “I hate straights.” It's empowering and affirming to violate that taboo, to reject what you've been told about who and what is valuable. But you think twice before you try to build your

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politics on a sentiment like that. Because for most of us, the "us" is not all gay, and straights are not all "them."

Vera Whisman
Brooklyn

LIBERTARIANLY SPEAKING

Since I have noted the phrase "gay libertarian conservative" on several occasions in *OutWeek* ("Queerly Speaking," no. 59, Aug. 15), I would like to offer a brief objection to it.

It makes no more sense to say "gay libertarian conservative" than to say "gay libertarian liberal." In some instances, the libertarian position may approach (if not overtake) present-day liberalism (e.g., decriminalization of all controlled substances, an aversion to a large-scale, standing military in peacetime) while in other instances, it may approach standard conservatism (e.g., laissez-faire and economic deregulation, the abolition of the NEA or any extensive federal

bureaucracy set up to monitor long-term civil rights legislation). But in all cases, the spirit is that of the framers—that, generally speaking, the least government is still the best, individual creativity and personal responsibility being the norms and a true democracy being the ideal. As Barry Goldwater repeatedly told the "Moral Majority" in the early 1980s, we libertarians no more favor government support for their program than we do any "liberal" agenda. In short, if one wishes to be conservative (or liberal, or anything else politically), that is, of course, their right; but please don't drag us libertarians into their/your scheme of things. We have enough identity crises of our own.

Bob Slocum
West Long Beach, N.J.

BWMA SPEAKS OUT

(The first part of this essay was written by a multiracial group of women.)

We, the Board of Direc-

tors of Brooklyn Women's Martial Arts/the Center for Anti-Violence Education, are writing to present our perspective in relation to the July 28, 1990 march against anti-lesbian violence in Park Slope. An editorial in *OutWeek* implied that we detracted from the march's unity by our attempt (with others) to make central to the march's agenda a commitment to fighting both racist and homophobic violence—since for lesbian and gays of color the issues cannot be separated. And some in the community have criticized us for eventually withdrawing our support from the event. We would like to explain the history of the organizing for the march and our views of the politically significant issues raised by the demonstration, namely, the difference between "multiracial" and "anti-racist," and how we define and establish unity that represents the diversity of the NYC lesbian and gay community.

Brooklyn Women's Martial Arts, a largely lesbian organization, has been doing anti-violence teaching and organizing for 16 years. We have always offered self-defense classes for women. Three years ago, we started teaching self-defense workshops for lesbians and gay men. Because we are committed to fighting violence against lesbians and gay men through broader organizing, several of our members attended the initial planning meeting for what became the July demonstration.

BWMA is a multiracial organization with a commitment to anti-racism. We know that to fight violence in the lives of all lesbians and gay men, we must address not only homophobia but also racism. For that reason, we and others present at the first meeting advocated outreach to lesbians and gays throughout Brooklyn, and we advocated for the march to focus on homophobia and racist violence as interrelated issues, equally crucial for our



community. The meeting was predominantly white, and most of those present expressed fears that addressing racism would take the focus off homophobic violence. As one white individual put it, racist violence is terrible, but we need to keep the focus on "our" issues. Obviously, there was a difference of opinion about what "our" issues are. The debate continued at the second meeting, where only six of the 50 or so people present were people of color.

(The following section was written by women of color.)

The women of color who were present at these two meetings raised concerns about racist violence and its inherent connection to anti-lesbian violence. As women of color who are lesbians, we are frequently assaulted in our daily lives with racist and homophobic aggression. As we defend ourselves from these assaults, we do not alienate one part of ourselves from the other for the said [goal] of a "focused agenda." It is absurd that white people who call themselves "militant" political activists think that the people of color who work and struggle with them against social oppression can actually separate parts of ourselves or the mutually inclusive issues which define who we are—or that we would be willing to do so.

We, as lesbians of color, can no longer tolerate nor afford the time spent persuading white lesbian and gay liberals/progressives that our issues are mutually inclusive when they deny and dismiss this key political principle. In situations where few people of color are present, arrogance and self-righteousness often prevail among whites discussing racism, and usually the few people of color are not heard. Since

this was the case with the organizing of the July 28 march, women of color left the second meeting after our spoken concerns about developing an anti-racist perspective, doing committed outreach to multiracial organizations and lesbian and gay groups of color, nonviolent confrontation with the police and nonracist behavior within the demonstration were neither acknowledged nor validated from the sidelines with other observers from our community on July 28, we saw that the march by no means succeeded as a multiracial event. The few people of color participating did not, and realistically could not, begin to represent the diversity and multitude of lesbians and gays of color in our city.

(The next piece was written by white women.)

As white women in BWMA, we felt we had to act on two fronts. Historically, and still, BWMA is a predominantly white organization. Part of doing anti-racist work as white women is being allies to women of color by recognizing racism and refusing to support or accept it. When the concerns of lesbians of color were dismissed in the organizing of this march, we all decided to withdraw BWMA's organizational resources from the march.

On another front, we felt responsible as white people for challenging the climate of hostility that made it impossible for women of color to continue attending the organizing meetings. So, individual white women from BWMA continued to participate in the organizing of the march and continued to voice the need to link the issues of homophobia and racism.

We know, from being criticized ourselves for racism,

that it is easy to become defensive, and then it is hard to listen to the viewpoints of people of color. But if we are committed to counteracting the racism that we have inevitably internalized, we must hear and respect the experiences of people of color, though they will be different from our own.

(The next section was written by a multiracial group of women)

BWMA has been criticized for withdrawing from the march. We acknowledge that there are differences of opinion on the appropriateness of that choice. We also believe that the work we and others did in the organizing meetings helped to broaden the agenda and overcome the organizers' initial fear that the inclusion of a commitment to fighting racist violence would take the focus off "our" (read "white") issues as lesbians. The rhetoric of the march and the leaflet for it thus included an opposition to all hate crimes. However, opposing all hate crimes is not the same as recognizing racism as a problem within the lesbian and gay community. And dismissing concerns about racism and declaring the march a multiracial success because a small percentage of the marchers were people of color does not change the fact that the organizers failed in their responsibility to put together an event for all of our community.

It is not enough for an organization or action to be multiracial. "Multiracial" is not the same as "nonracist" or "anti-racist." A lesbian and gay organization may be multiracial—have members of different races—and still have no analysis of how the threat of violence plays out differently in the lives of lesbians and gays, depending, among other factors, on our race or ethnicity.

An anti-racist perspective, however, recognizes that both racist and homophobic violence must be placed at the center of our political agenda. When an anti-racist agenda is not made central, the concerns of people of color are marginalized and as a result we/they often leave an organization. The result is an exclusively white leadership—as was eventually the case with the march.

We came to the organizing meetings with the goal of building a march for everyone in the gay and lesbian community. The organizers of the march and some in the media have presented our determination to broaden the march as divisive. But it is the people who do not yet put racism along with homophobia at the center of our political agenda who are reinforcing the divisions in this community. "Unity" cannot be declared because some people of color decided that joining a march organized by whites was better than not marching at all. Unity will occur when the concerns of people of color are addressed equally and thoroughly in each of our organizations and in our community. There is a lot more work to be done to bring us together in a real unity that recognizes both our commonalities and our differences. We eagerly look forward to joining with others in this work.

*Brooklyn Women's
Martial Arts*

Corrections

Because of a printer's error, many of the photographs in some copies of last week's *OutWeek* were unrecognizably dark. Our apologies to the photographers and subjects alike.

news

The East Village Wigs Out...Again



Photo: T. L. Litt/OutWeek

SISTERS ARE DOING IT FOR THEMSELVES—

Feathers, sequins and, of course, wigs in Tompkins Square

by Nina Reyes

NEW YORK—The annual East Village performance extravaganza known as Wigstock gives to all the opportunity to shake out the Rapunzel in them, and aside from a few garish hairdos, the year's fest came to a close this year with a surge of queer energy and little incident.

The event, arguably more fashion show than concert, included many stunning musical performances by the ladies of the court. But the most entertaining part of the day's offerings were the downtown royalty strolling through Tompkins Square Park.

"Darling, you look faaaabulous!" exclaimed one lady to a bewigged confidante, a refrain heard over and over again throughout the afternoon's festivities. Attendees, taking the phantasmagoria of the event to heart, wore not only wigs, but outrageous hats, splendid evening gowns, divine costume jewelry, fishnet stockings and stiletto heels. Women dressed as men, men dressed as women, boys dressed as girls, girls dressed as girls, men dressed as girls, and far too many men dressed as men.

The sixth annual festival received special notice from Manhattan Borough President Ruth Messinger, who declared Sept. 3, 1990, "Wigstock Day" in the borough of Manhattan. "The Wigstock experience, a celebration of music, peace, love and drag, helps New Yorkers realize that celebration of difference makes us all richer," the proclamation stated.

Several groups of Pink Panthers, a lesbian and gay community anti-violence patrol, circulated watchfully throughout the gathering, on guard against potential assaults such as the one that marred last year's Wigstock celebration, in which several men in drag were brutally attacked by lacrosse-stick-wielding youths.

Even so, at least one violent incident did occur in conjunction with the event: Following Wigstock, a few blocks away from the actual event, a gay man was beaten by a thug who apparently doesn't like men wearing false hair (see sidebar). An unconfirmed report also came in that a straight man was assaulted, apparently because his attackers perceived him to be gay.

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news

Party promoter bashed after Wigstock

NEW YORK—A gay man walking down his East Village block several hours after the conclusion of Labor Day's Wigstock festival was attacked in front of the Hell's Angels clubhouse, sustaining bruises, abrasions and two black eyes, but avoiding injuries that would have required a visit to the hospital. No arrests have been made in connection with the assault.

"This guy literally slugged me in the side of the face, threw me on the sidewalk and kind of ground my face into the sidewalk," recalled party promoter Chip Duckett, who lives on the block of East 3rd Street between First and Second avenues where the Hell's Angels clubhouse is located.

Duckett, who originated the lesbian and gay parties at local nightclubs like Mars and Quick!, said he was not attired in Wigstock finery when he was attacked. He stated that his attacker said to him, "Don't wear a fucking wig on this block." The assailant apparently had seen Duckett earlier in the day when Duckett was on his way to the festivities in Tompkins Square Park.

Duckett was unable to positively identify his assailant from police mugshots and was not even certain if his attacker was an Angel or one of the numerous Angel wannabes that hang around the clubhouse.

The incident, which has been classified as a hate-motivated crime, is currently being investigated by the New York Police Department's bias unit.

—Nina Reyes

GYPSIES, TRAMPS AND THIEVES— Debbie Harry and Cher enjoy the show.

"I was amazed at how smoothly it went off," exclaimed Lady Bunny, Wigstock's founder, hostess and high priestess. "I thought the weather was gorgeous and there was a great turnout and we got all the acts on early. It was the first time we've ever done that!"

Wigstock '90 was dedicated to Ethyl Eichelberger and International Chrysis, two brilliant, recently deceased drag performers whose contributions to Wigstock in past years helped make the festival the extravaganza it has become. ▼

REAL QUEENS DON'T DRINK MILLER— Boys enjoy a Bud at Wigstock.

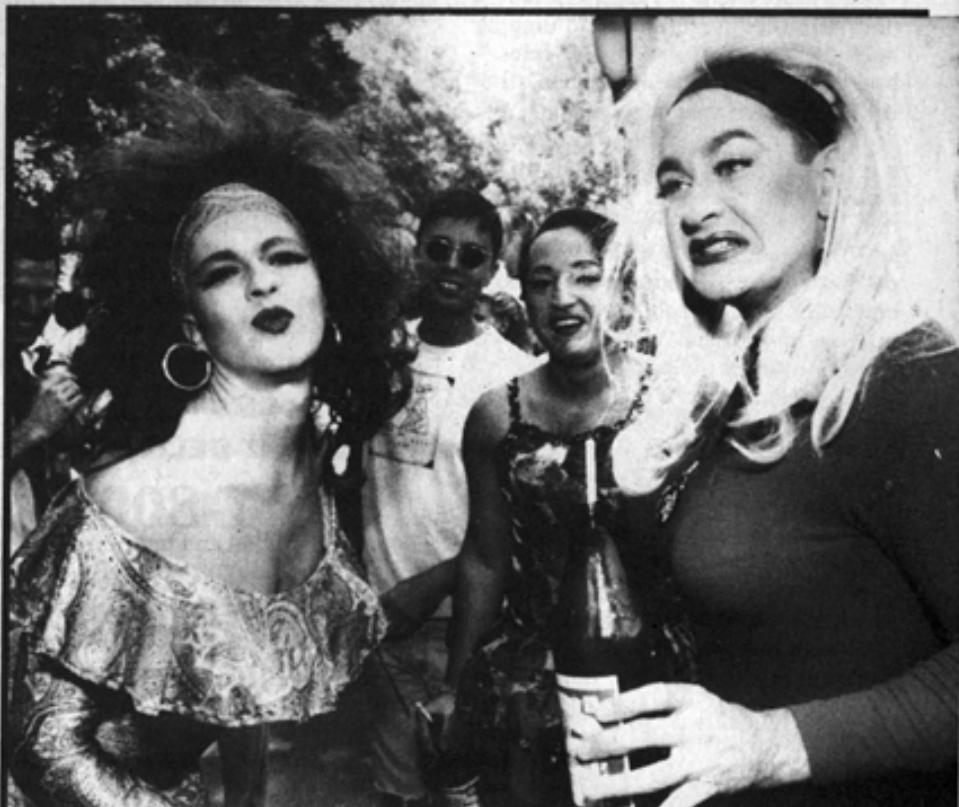


Photo: T. L. Lipp/OutWeek

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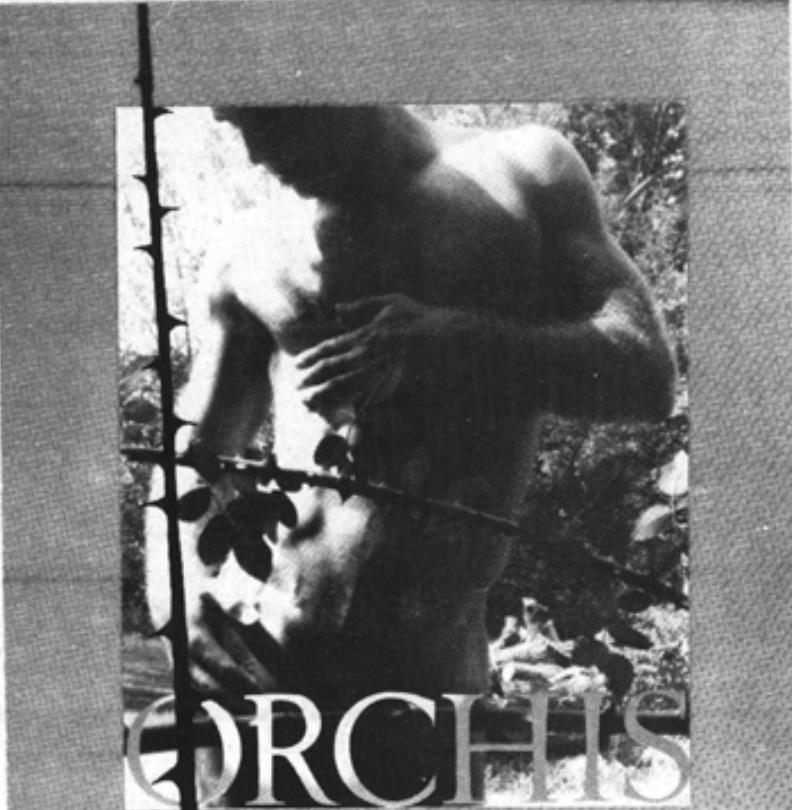
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news

Two hospitalized over Labor Day weekend in anti-gay attacks

No Holiday From Gay-Bashing



Photo: T.L. Litt/OutWeek

"**MY LOVER THOUGHT I WAS ALMOST DEAD.**" — Gary Apruzzese

by **Nina Reyes**

NEW YORK—A number of bias-related assaults rocked the city's lesbian and gay community over the Labor Day holiday weekend, including at least two incidents that landed gay men in the hospital, according to the New York City Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project.

Still, with fewer than ten separate attacks recorded, an anti-violence activist from the AVP grimly characterized the weekend as relatively uneventful. "Our response was, 'That's not so

bad,' and then we realized how terrifying it is that two or three incidents each day is commonplace," said David Kirschenbaum, a spokesperson for AVP.

On Saturday evening, Brad Lamm and Gary Apruzzese were walking along Seventh Avenue in midtown when a van with Ontario plates passed. The men turned down a cross street to escape a barrage of verbal assaults, but when they arrived at Broadway and 51st Street, they found the van waiting for them. One passenger reportedly screamed, "Your friend was down at

the piers last night, and he gave great head!" and then five youths streamed out of the van and allegedly attacked the two men.

Lamm was hit and knocked to the ground but escaped serious injury. Apruzzese was severely beaten and eventually required stitches both below and above his eye and on his right temple, X-rays and CAT-scans, and treatment for a concussion.

"I was lying in the middle of the street, and blood was flowing from me to the curb," Apruzzese recounted.

"Brad thought I was almost dead."

A pedestrian who witnessed the attack heeded Lamm's plea for help and called 911. A police officer picked up the call and stopped the distinctive-looking van, which was caught in a snarl of traffic at West 44th Street. Apruzzese was taken to St. Clare's Hospital, while Lamm was taken by police to identify his alleged assailants.

"Both of us feel very strongly about being visible," Lamm stated, explaining why he thought he and Apruzzese had been targeted for attack. He and his lover will not allow last week's attack to intimidate them out of the simple pleasure of holding hands in public, Lamm continued, adding that while their openly gay demeanor has provided the two men with frequent opportunities to defuse gay-baiters, "this is the first time that something violent has happened."

The five youths charged with assaulting Lamm and Apruzzese are: Alex Figueroa, 18, of 329 Clifton Ave., Newark, NJ; Michael Hannah, 22, of 1909 McCarter Ave., Newark, NJ; Anthony Maya, 19, of 66 Irving St., Newark, NJ; Manuel Ortiz, 17, of 509 Second Ave., Elizabeth, NJ; Jesus Torres, 17, of 289 Woodside Ave., Newark, NJ. The alleged gay-bashers will come to trial on September 26.

In an unrelated incident in the wee hours of Monday morning, two other men were assaulted on Christopher Street near Greenwich Street. That incident began when two men jostled Tarlach Mac Niallais and Kevin Potter, and Mac Niallais felt one of the two attempt to pick his pocket. An altercation peppered with anti-gay epithets ensued.

"It sort of evolved into a fist fight," Mac Niallais recalled. But when one of the two men pulled a bottle from a nearby trash can, and the other man produced a long metal pipe, the fight became lopsided.

Mac Niallais ran over to another trash basket to arm himself with a broken bottle. Potter, faced with two assailants, attempted to flee into the nearby gay bar, Two Potato. However, he found his entry barred by the bouncer, and the doors to the establishment were locked in front of him.

"When I stepped in there, the bouncer said 'You can't come in here,'



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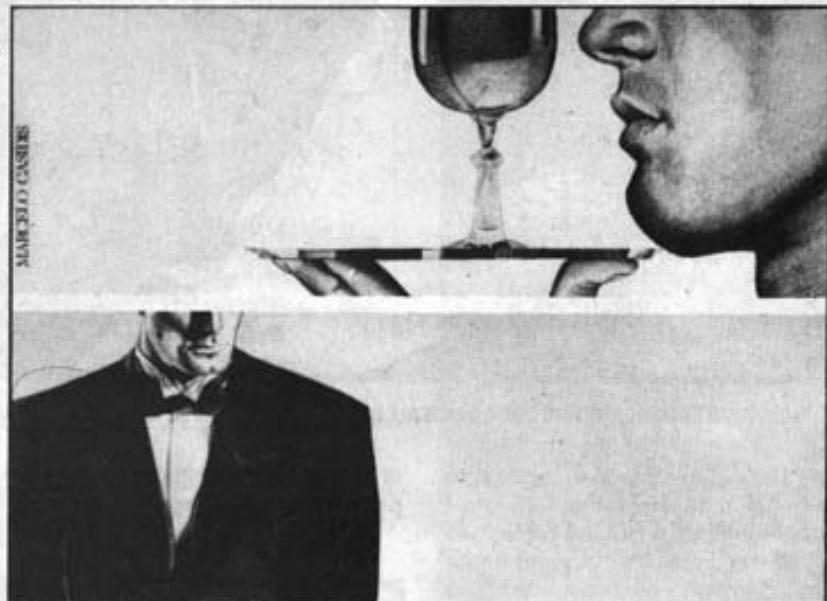
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"THE GUY WAS HOLDING THE PIPE LIKE A BASEBALL BAT." — Kevin Potter at St. Vincent's

and I said, 'This guy is trying to beat me up!' " Potter recalled. "When I turned around, the guy was holding the [pipe] like a baseball bat, and he hit me." The gash Potter sustained from that blow required seven stitches.

Mac Niallais returned to the melee just in time to see his lover ejected from Two Potato and pummeled with the pipe, whereupon he ran to Potter's assistance, and the men's two assailants departed from the scene.

And while Mac Niallais flagged down a car to get his lover to the hospital, a passerby posing as a Samaritan ripped the gold chain from Potter's neck as Potter lay semiconscious on the ground. The man also foraged through Potter's pockets for money.

No arrests have been made in connection with the incident.

At St. Vincent's Hospital, the two coincidentally encountered Lamm and Apruzzese, who had been transferred there for tests.

Bill Mead, manager of Two Potato, explained that his bouncers refused to allow Potter into the bar because they believed him to be part

of an all-out street brawl, not an in-progress gay-bashing.

While Mead claimed that he has

assisted countless gay-bashing victims in the past, he also pointed out that his bouncers are instructed to keep out people participating in scraps that arise outside of the bar. "It always gets blamed on the bar," Mead explained. "But it's not the bar, and it's not the customers."

According to the Anti-Violence Project, at least five other recorded gay-bashings occurred over the course of the holiday weekend. A gay man was attacked at Sixth Avenue and 9th Street, and another was beaten on the subway in Brooklyn, but no additional information was available on either of those assaults.

"With over a hundred cases each month since June," the AVP's Kirschenbaum reiterated, "two a day doesn't seem all that unusual, no matter how frightening that is." ▼



"IT ALWAYS GETS BLAMED ON THE BAR." — Gay-bashing site, Christopher and Greenwich streets

Ramblin' Around

NEW YORK—At least six gay men were reportedly mugged at knife-point in the Rambles in Central Park two weeks ago, marking the continuation of a crime spree that has traditionally plagued that area during warm-weather months.

However, according to police, the overall number of armed robberies in Central Park is down this year in comparison with muggings reported last year.

Requesting an increased police presence in an area that is known for its gay male sexual activity may be too problematic, Matt Foreman, director the New York City Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project, explained. Instead, Foreman said, "What we're looking for in the Rambles is for people to come forward and report things that happen." If people victimized in the Rambles successfully prosecuted their assailants, Foreman thinks, the word will quickly circulate among what he suspects is a fairly small group of perpetrators that the Rambles is not as fail-safe as it has been.

None of the Rambles muggings reported to *OutWeek* were recorded as bias-related incidents by the police, because they did not conform to the technical description of hate-motivated crimes.

The Anti-Violence Project plans to distribute warning cards to men in the Rambles in the next few weeks, alerting them to the continuing dangers of robbery and assault in that area. To volunteer for that effort, or to report a hate-motivated attack, call (212) 807-0197.

—Nina Reyes

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Thriving Sex Clubs Resurrect Bathhouse Issue in San Francisco

by Allen White

SAN FRANCISCO—They call him Father Frank, and with his church of glory holes, he has put the issue of bathhouses in San Francisco back on the front burner of public debate. Under legal protections of his St. Priapus Church, Frank has created a unique social center offering activities scheduled from dusk to dawn.

In the last few weeks, the San Francisco police have, on two occasions, interrupted the minister's evangelical outreach to the gay community. The church has two branches located South of Market, a neighborhood near the Financial District that is also home to many of the city's leather bars and thriving nightclubs. Though the police visits closed the facilities for a few hours, there have been no citations issued, no violations of law uncovered, and business has resumed the following nights.

Unlike other churches, the most prominent and popular area is not the altar, but the "meditation rooms" where glory holes are dramatically covered with iridescent paint flooded by black light.

Father Frank and his operation have once again made public what had been silenced for years: the growing desire for bathhouses and sex clubs in San Francisco. The last such facility went out of business three years ago, primarily because of lack of business and because of stringent health department guidelines that made their

operation prohibitive.

But while bathhouses have closed in San Francisco, they continue to do a booming business just across the Bay in Berkeley, and in San Jose, about 50 miles south of the city. And following a serious drop in tourism following last year's earthquake, the city's two largest gay movie theaters are reporting near-capacity crowds. The Labor Day holiday weekend was one of the largest grossing weekends in years.

This week, the *Bay Area Reporter*, one of two weekly lesbian and gay community publications in the city, editorialized that "Gay bathhouses should be allowed to open and operate in San Francisco."

"Times have changed," the paper opined. "The bath scene has changed. Gay men are more aware of how HIV is

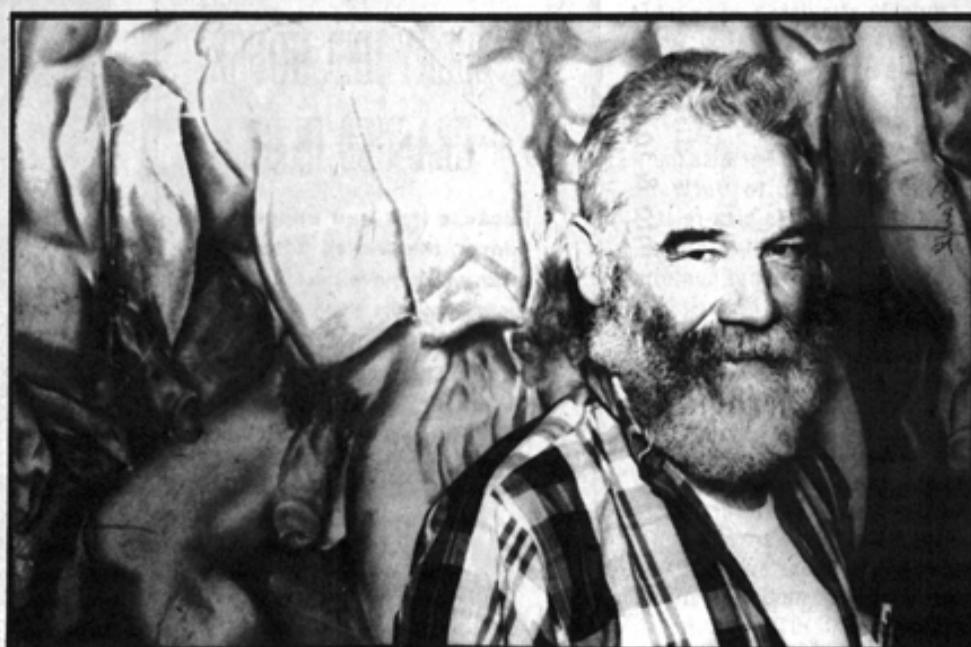
transmitted and the safeguards against it than they were in the mid-1980s."

Responding to the police action against Father Frank's operation, the other gay weekly, the *Sentinel*, editori-

News Focus

alized last week that, "if the problems are fire danger, bad hygiene and the sale of alcohol, maybe it would help to remember that we once had structurally safe, nonalcoholic and wonderfully clean sex clubs—they were called bathhouses."

The father, whose full name is Frank Finch, believes that it is time for change. "We've learned our lessons," he said, "and we have emerged from that and are now trying to build some-



"THE SEXUAL REVOLUTION IS NOT DEAD"—

Father Frank Finch in front of a "religious mural" in his church on Clementine St.

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thing positive based on that experience. The gay community is very well educated on [safer sex]. There are people that assume that no one down here has any brains. This is the full perspective of the community, doctors, lawyers, chiefs. The whole group is here."

Father Frank also believes that his church discourages illegal activity. "We want to draw them into what the California consenting adult law calls 'a private place' where they will not be committing crimes and will be doing 'good works.'" That is the social program of the church, he reports.

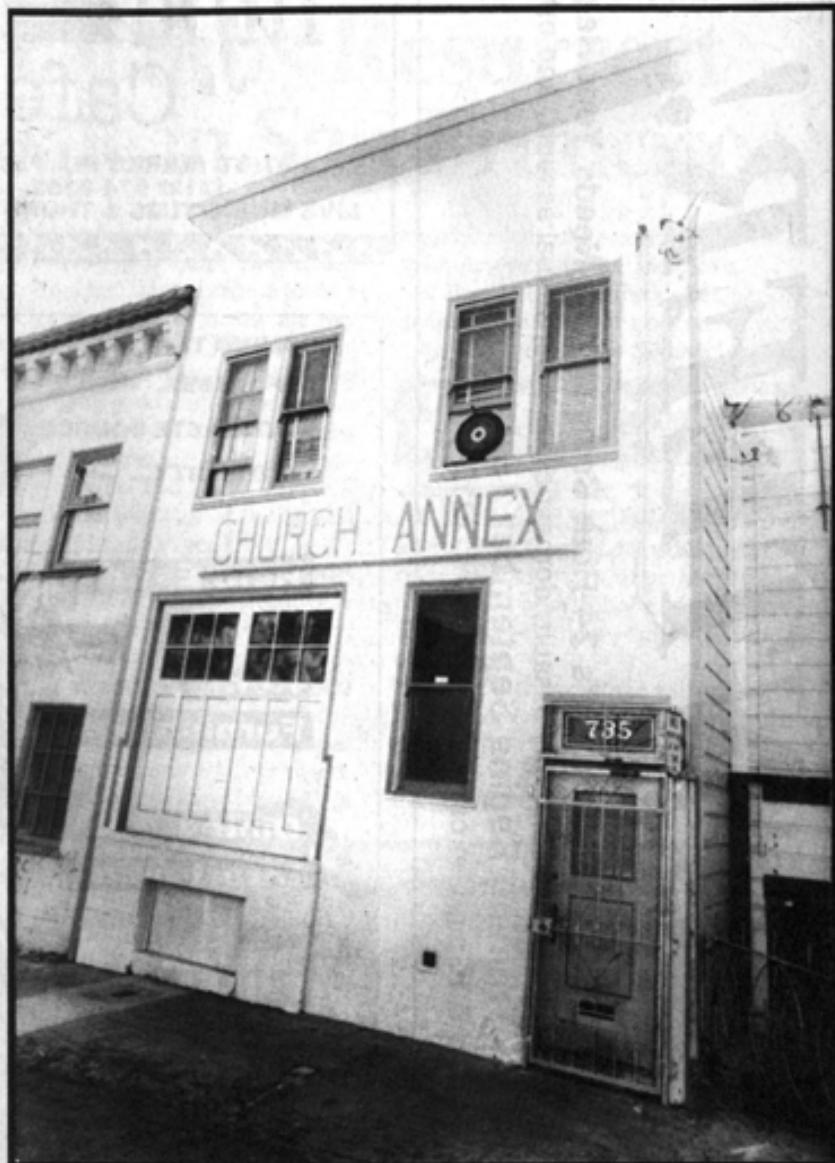
"We are getting the guys out of the back alleys. When they were closing the baths, they would go to the bushes and the back alleys. Now, we are trying to draw them out of that place where, technically, sex is criminal."

Father Frank's church is certainly not alone in providing provocative sexual activity. Business was booming in San Francisco's gay entertainment palaces over the Labor Day weekend. Crowds jammed into the Campus Theater in the Tenderloin and at the Nob Hill Theater for an evening of fun, fantasy and the opportunity to rub their hands and mouths over the chests and legs of a bevy of porn stars.

The success of these two operations is yet another indication that gay men are exploring new opportunities for safe ways to express their sexual drive. The crowds at the Campus were due in large part, according to management, to the popularity of their star performer, Tim Lowe. A spokesperson at the Nob Hill credits the crowds to the return to the city following a post-earthquake lull.

Lowe is a popular video star who has performed in 26 videos to date. Many come to the theater to get a look at what they see on their home videos. "Everybody has different porn stars, and the people want to see their favorite," Lowe told *OutWeek*.

The show at the Campus is audience participation taken to the legal limits. The only rules, which are announced at each show, state that the



"GETTING THE GUYS OUT OF THE BACK ALLEYS"—
Sex Church at 735 Tehama St.

customers may not touch the ass or the genitals of the performer.

The action at the Nob Hill, a four-theater complex, is equally as sensual. They advertise as the world's greatest male sex emporium, and, according to many, they succeed in living up to their claim.

The question of reopening San Francisco's bathhouses comes just two months before a very important elec-

tion for the city's lesbian and gay community. On the ballot are two lesbian candidates for the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, one gay candidate for the school board and the return of the issue of municipally sanctioned domestic partnership.

The candidates and the domestic partners initiative all have a good chance of succeeding. The explosive

See SEX CLUBS on page 28

STRAIGHT BALL BASHING



I sent a check for \$1,000 to the Harvey Gantt campaign fund. On the check I printed under my signature, QUEER ACTIVIST.

I did not expect a thank-you, but I was not prepared to be ignored, either. Gantt came to this little Podunk, shit-kicking town last week, and who was not invited to the business luncheon? Me, THE DEMOCRATIC QUEER! Talk about homophobia. The last meeting I went to of SENATE VOTE '90, Asheville, it was decided by straight environmentalists to be lowkey on "gay" issues for fear that Jesse (UGH!) would use it against Gantt in the campaign. Guilt by association.

I mean, what the fuck! Once Gantt is elected, what are we queers supposed to do? Sneak in the back door of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, to express the needs of Queer Nation, ACT UP, etc. Or meet Gantt at the parking lot of the Watergate Hotel to whisper those needs giving the homophobic new meaning to the handle "Deep Throat"

It is just as OK to be queer before the election as it is after the election. To play into the hands of Helms is to give him more power and perpetuate growing homophobia in North Carolina and the nation.

I am here. I am queer. GET USED TO IT, MY DEAR.

I am not shutting up nor am I going to be an invisible queer voter.

Gantt is acting the appropriate middle-class family man with family values, so how do we know he is going to help with AIDS funding and human rights once he gets into the Senate. Just being black is not a qualification to represent Queer National needs. Let us hear from Gantt, and what he plans to do for us queers once he is elected to the Senate, before any more donations are sent to his campaign.

Shit. We are visible now with Helms in office. Are we going to trade that for invisibility once Gantt gets in office?

Let us hear from Gantt on the issues which mean so much to us, AIDS, homophobia, human rights.

Charles Merrill

Charles Merrill hitting from inside the lines.

Photo © 1980, by Alexander Liberman, Executive Director, Condé Nast publications, taken at the Beach Club, Palm Beach, Florida from which I resigned because they did not allow minorities as members. Liberman is Jewish and I am QUEER.

OUT TAKES

FEDS DISPROVE BLOOD-HEATING AIDS TREATMENT

NEW YORK—A governmental investigation into a controversial AIDS treatment has revealed that what was initially hailed as a possible cure for AIDS may not have had any effect at all on the two people cited in the government report.

The treatment is known as hyperthermia and involves the heating of the patient's blood outside the body in order to raise overall body temperature.

Prior to the governmental investigation, which was conducted by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, the only information about the treatment had come through journalistic reports, leading AIDS activists to express concern about the accuracy and usefulness of the data circulating through the community.

"As a physician, I can't say enough about the harm done to people with AIDS when a dubious treatment is trumpeted by the media like hyperthermia was," Dr. Ramon Torres commented last month after it was disclosed that one hyperthermia patient had died immediately after undergoing the treatment. Torres assisted NIAID in its hyperthermia investigation and advises Gay Men's Health Crisis on medical matters. "There is very little information out there, and a lot of uncertainty," he continued.

The NIAID report revealed that the physician at the center of the controversy, Dr. Kenneth Alonso, an Atlanta pathologist, apparently misread his first hyperthermia patient's clinical condition. According to the NIAID report, what Alonso diagnosed as lesions resulting from Kaposi's sar-

coma, an AIDS-related cancer, government specialists found instead to be a disseminated infection of bacterial origin. The national media's focus on hyperthermia resulted from the patient's claim that his KS had disappeared and his overall condition had improved following the hyperthermia treatment.

According to the NIAID report, it is highly likely that the patient's bacterial infection responded favorably to the antibiotic infusion that he received prior to undergoing hyperthermia. At the very least, the fact that a broad-spectrum antibiotic was administered confounds experts' ability to determine whether the hyperthermia treatment had any effect on the patient's symptomatic HIV infection.

The second patient to undergo the costly and potentially dangerous treatment did not experience improvement after hyperthermia, according to the government investigation.

Although data on the third person with AIDS who sought treatment from Alonso was not included in the NIAID investigation on hyperthermia, independent reports stated that that patient died eight hours after undergoing the treatment under Alonso's supervision in Mexico City. It was that news that prompted activists to call on the doctors involved to release their data, and to demand that the government make public its findings.

GMHC's assistant director of policy, David Barr, told *OutWeek* that his agency is "deeply disturbed by the apparent exploitation of people with HIV revealed in [the NIAID] report. People with a life-threatening illness were led to pay incredible prices—\$30,000 and more—for a treatment which has had no effect on their medical condition," he said.

Neither Alonso nor Dr. William Logan, the Atlanta surgeon who oper-

ated on the first two hyperthermia patients in conjunction with Alonso, could be reached for comment on the government report.

—Nina Reyes

30 COPS RAID CAMP OF 70 MEN IN IOWA

CHICAGO—Thirty police officers from local, county and state forces as well as the FBI raided a gay campout near Boone, Iowa on Aug. 25. One man was arrested for possession of marijuana, and another for allegedly having sex with a minor.

The 70 campers, who, according to organizers, are mostly "doctors and lawyers and other professionals," gather yearly for the Midwest Men's Festival.

In previous years, the 10-day gathering was in Missouri. It was moved this year after Missouri state park officials canceled the group's reservation, claiming that last year many of the men were nude, and that at least one couple had sex, which is illegal in Missouri.

The 7 am raid lasted two hours, according to festival spokespersons. Police poked their heads into cabins and tents, inquiring if any children were present, organizers said. Photo albums, festival records, personal papers and other materials were seized. Several of the officers wore rubber gloves; others videotaped the raid.

Boone County Attorney Steven Oeth told the Des Moines Register that police went to the campsite, Elk Horn Ranch, because of "concern about what was going on."

Police later said that two informants had attended the festival and that one observed Harry Hayes of Hiawatha, Kans., have sex with a 9-year-old boy.

Boone County Sheriff Ronald Fahr added that two cars at the campground were registered to men convicted of sex offenses with children.

But Rich Eychaner, co-owner of the campground, believes the raid was the result of police homophobia.

"We've had women's groups, individuals who want to meditate...church groups," he told reporters. "But when we had a predominately gay group, the FBI went in to raid the place."

Mark Reed, a spokesperson for the festival, condemned the raid as "excessive" and added that sex with minors is not allowed at the gathering.

Eugene Meyer, assistant director of the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation, defended the use of a large number of police officers, explaining that the encampment was spread out over 180 acres "and we had a search warrant to look for children, child pornography and drugs."

The 9-year-old boy at the gathering was with his father, organizers say. The police informant said that he saw the child and Hayes engage "in what appeared to be [a] consensual" sex act the day before the raid. The informant also observed a photo album in the dining hall that contained pictures of nude men and children, police said.

At press time, festival spokespersons said that they were gathering evidence that could contradict the reports of the informant, but they did not provide details.

The Midwest Men's Festival was started in 1982 by a group of Missouri gay men.

—Rex Wockner

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BUSH'S AIDS PANEL DENOUNCES US EFFORTS

WASHINGTON, DC—The third report of President George Bush's National Commission on AIDS has aggressively condemned numerous deficiencies in the nation's response to the epidemic.

Key problems, according to the commission, include "a shocking num-

ber of physicians [who] are reluctant to take care of people living with HIV infection," "a desperate need for more research on the management of opportunistic infections" and the absence of "a comprehensive community-based primary health care system."

The commission also said that the National Institutes of Health's "clinical trials program is in serious trouble. The limited number of enrollees in trials and the lack of demographic and geographic diversity of the participants threatens the success of the program and denies many people...the opportunity to participate in experimental drug therapies."

"To put it bluntly," the panel continued, "the number of people involved in clinical trials (12,000) vs. the number of people eligible for clinical trials is pitifully small. The ground rules for trials seem often too rigid....People of color, women and children are grossly underrepresented."

"Much of the blame for these many problems," the commission wrote, "rests with academic health centers....A clear, crisp, well-articulated clinical research strategy is simply not in evidence."

Among the commission's recommendations: A national health care sys-



Photo: T.L. Linn/OutWeek

Pick Glick

NEW YORK—One week before primary elections, three political heavyweights and *The New York Times* endorsed openly lesbian Assembly candidate Deborah Glick, stamping her campaign with the establishment imprimatur that could make the final difference in her race to go to Albany.

State Attorney General Robert Abrams, New York City Comptroller Elizabeth Holtzman and Manhattan Borough President Ruth Messinger, pictured here with Glick and City Councilor Ronnie Eldridge, who endorsed Glick earlier in the race, each announced their support of Glick on Sept. 4, praising Glick's commitment to a progressive agenda and her willingness to be an outspoken advocate for the issues she supports. "It's important to have someone who is openly gay who will go to the state Legislature and speak with that

special poignancy, that special personal passion about the deprivation of rights and liberties of so many in our society who are gay and lesbian," Attorney General Abrams added.

And for only the second time in history, on Sept. 6, the *Times* endorsed an openly gay candidate, naming Glick the paper's choice for the 61st Assembly District. Last year, the *Times* backed gay City Council hopeful Tom Duane.

The recent endorsements provided Glick with icing for her already formidable roster of support, which includes feminist and pro-choice organizations, labor unions, venerated Black activists, the *Village Voice* and many gay and lesbian politicos. The primary election is Tuesday, Sept. 11.

—Nina Reyes

tem, adequate AIDS services in rural communities, increased enrollment in NIH clinical trials, more research on opportunistic infections and aggressive efforts to address the "shortage of crisis proportions of health care providers capable and willing to care for" HIV-positive individuals.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, head of the National Institute of Allergies and Infectious Diseases, told reporters that much of the commission's report is on the mark. But he said that increasing enrollment in drug trial studies would merely turn them into "drug-distribution programs."

—Rex Wockner/Chicago

SPOKESPEOPLE: WALESA IS NOT ANTI-GAY

Close associates of Polish Solidarity party leader Lech Walesa have told the British Broadcasting Corporation that Walesa is not anti-gay.

The statements follow claims by Polish gay activists that Walesa promised in April to "eliminate homosexuals and drug users from Polish society" if he is elected president.

Walesa's spokespeople told Eugene Smolar, who heads the BBC's Polish Section, that Walesa never made the "eliminate" statement and "is not hostile to homosexuals."

"He's a Catholic, but a liberal one," explained Smolar, who knows Walesa personally. "Walesa probably did make a passing remark about eliminating social problems. This may have been misinterpreted. I'm sure he didn't mean to suggest the elimination of homosexuals. He may have meant eliminating the problems that homosexuals face and the need to speak openly about this subject."

Smolar said Walesa, is "only a worker, not a professional politician. Sometimes he makes off-the-cuff remarks that he doesn't mean or which are open to misunderstanding. However, deep down...I know he would oppose discrimination on any basis. Whatever Walesa said, his office assured me that he didn't intend to cause offense or alarm."

Walesa's aides told Smolar that they were very disturbed by reports

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from San Francisco, where gay activists have urged the city to rename a street bearing Walesa's name.

Phone calls to Walesa's Gdansk office went unreturned.

Walesa himself is not known to have ever publicly declared his support for the civil rights of gays and lesbians—a demand that has now been put forth by US activists, including San Francisco's Queer Nation.

The *San Francisco Examiner* has also called for Walesa to speak out personally on the issue.

"There is more at stake here than the name of a San Francisco street," the paper editorialized.

—Rex Wockner in Chicago and Peter Tatchell in London

SEX CLUBS

Continued from page 22

issue of reopening the bathhouses has the potential of being political dynamite in a community with diverse viewpoints, and a flash point for homophobia in the city's electoral politics.

Board of Supervisors President Harry Britt, the highest elected gay person in San Francisco, opposes the concept. "I'm not in favor of it," he told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "We must do whatever we can to reduce the risk of HIV infection. Our first priority is to save lives. We have a whole new generation of young gay men who don't need to be exposed."

Carole Migden who, along with Roberta Achtenburg, is an open lesbian running for an at-large seat on the city's Board of Supervisors, said, "It is never going to be easy and popular to be gay, and if the idea [is] that a gay or lesbian candidate has to mask or cover lesbian or gay issues or visibility then I think it subverts the purpose of our candidacies."

"We come with the full host of issues," she continued. "Some are easily accepted by the general public and some are more difficult. It is our responsibility to advance them and to educate, and to have people understand us and have our issues advanced to a proper resolution."

Tom Ammiano, a gay man running for the board of education, sees the bathhouse debate as a possible problem for lesbian and gay candidates "if we don't do our homework."

GLAAD TIDINGS

Commentary

Darkman

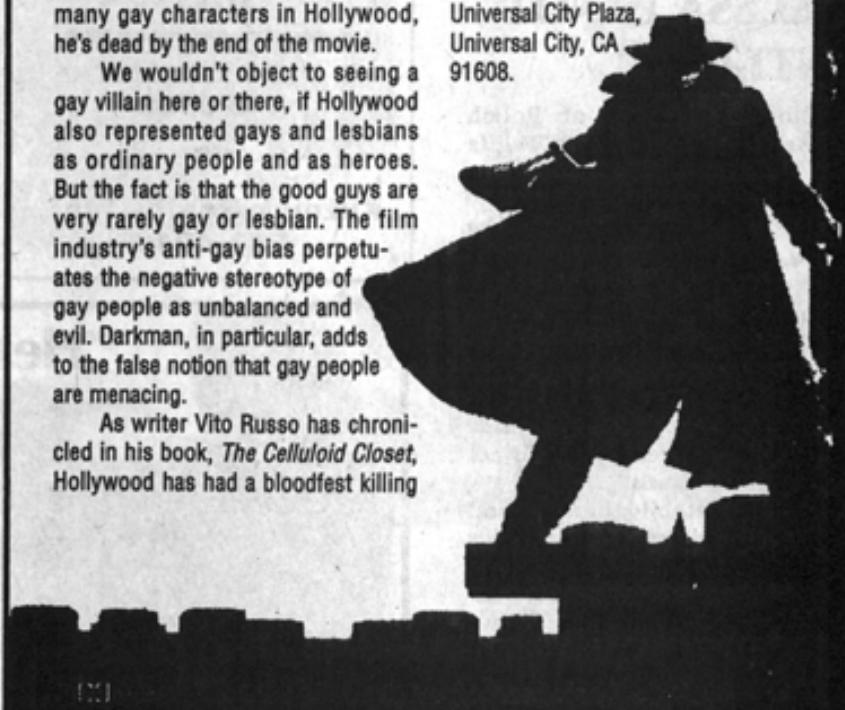
Universal Pictures has just released a new movie, *Darkman*, that contains subtle but dangerous anti-gay stereotyping. In the movie, actor Larry Drake plays a crime boss, Robert Durant, who, it is implied, is gay. Durant chops off his victim's fingers by day and sips martinis with his boyfriend flunky by night. It's a radical departure from Drake's role as mild-mannered Benny on *LA Law*. Like many gay characters in Hollywood, he's dead by the end of the movie.

We wouldn't object to seeing a gay villain here or there, if Hollywood also represented gays and lesbians as ordinary people and as heroes. But the fact is that the good guys are very rarely gay or lesbian. The film industry's anti-gay bias perpetuates the negative stereotype of gay people as unbalanced and evil. *Darkman*, in particular, adds to the false notion that gay people are menacing.

As writer Vito Russo has chronicled in his book, *The Celluloid Closet*, Hollywood has had a bloodfest killing

off its evil or maladjusted gay characters. *Darkman* is no exception. This trend has probably played a part in some people's belief that the lives of all lesbian and gay people are inherently tragic.

Let Universal Pictures know that they owe us some depictions of gay and lesbian heroes. Write to: Sally Van Slyke, Senior Vice President of Marketing, Universal Pictures, 100 Universal City Plaza, Universal City, CA 91608.



It has the potential for detracting as it has the potential for enriching," he said. "We have gotten such a bad rap about our sexuality that it could take on the air of irresponsibility. We have to be careful about how we present it. Sex is not dead."

In San Jose's Watergarden, a short drive down the peninsula, and Berkeley's Steam Works, the bathhouses are open and often operate at near capacity. But operations are dramatically different from their counterparts of the late '70s before the dawn of the age of AIDS.

The emphasis is now on health. No longer called "baths," they are listed under the heading of "gyms/health clubs" in such publications as *Bob Damron's Address Book*. Self-described as private clubs for gay and bisexual men, they are, as they say, an "alternative."

The Watergarden boasts an outdoor patio, tanning rooms, workout rooms with the latest in weights and other gym-type facilities. No drugs or alcohol are permitted in the facility.

The Steam Works, accessible by public transportation from San

Francisco, is housed in a converted warehouse. It also offers a weight area, steam rooms and a jacuzzi. The emphasis on cleanliness would draw praise from the most severe critic.

Following the completion of a membership procedure, those entering the club are directed to a wall of rules. They are serious, short and direct: Unsafe sex is not allowed, violators are ejected and banned from their establishments.

There is a subtle education process that is present throughout one's visit. Opening a spotless locker, the first and only thing inside is a condom. Moving through the facility, the walls carry photos of all types of men. Constant messages advocate safer sex. Throughout the facility there are boxes of free condoms.

The popularity of the clubs crosses all lines in the gay community. There are young men, with chiseled bodies, blond hair and blue eyes. There are men with dark tans and black hair and mustaches. There are people of all colors in an atmosphere which appears devoid of racial prejudice. And there are older men with graying hair and men with bodies which could use more than a few hours on a nautilus machine.

"The sexual revolution is not dead," says Father Frank. "It was just knocked slightly off course. Now people have learned to live with AIDS, and they have learned their limitations. Our group is a mature group.

"Young people are experimenting within the rules. They are getting the word of safe sex regularly. If someone needs a little guidance, they get it."

For Father Frank, he practices what he preaches. "I meet my sexual needs," he said. "If I didn't have this place I would probably be sitting in the upper balconies of the theaters and in the parkgrounds and, as I have said, they are all illegal. Some people think I work awfully hard at this, but it certainly is well worth it." ▼

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Aids Law: Where Do We Stand?

Part 3: The Health Insurance Problem

by Arthur S. Leonard

This third installment in a series updating AIDS and the law focuses on the insurance industry. From early in the epidemic, the industry struggled with the challenge of a new, expensive medical condition that threatens to upset the basic calculations underlying its operations.

Briefly stated, the private for-profit insurance industry operates on principles of actuarial risk: calculating the odds of a particular risk's occurrence, pricing insurance policies to cover that risk and generating a surplus for the company. This system fails to generate the normal level of profit, if a new risk occurs which was not factored into the calculations. Even if the new risk is eventually factored in, prices may be raised so much that purchasers will decide to forego buying insurance.

Unfortunately, many insurance companies decided to meet this challenge by using every possible way to avoid paying for AIDS, rather than figuring out how to spread this new risk over the large pool of insurance purchasers by raising premium rates and providing full coverage (as at least one nonprofit insurance provider, Empire Blue Cross, has done). The problem is undoubtedly complicated by the recent real-estate slump, since many insurance companies invest a large part of their reserve funds in real estate.

A majority of Americans obtain health insurance through their jobs. If the employer is large enough to qualify for standard group health insurance, employees and their legally recognized families qualify for coverage without providing individual proof of insurability. In this situation gay people are left out. Although society is slowly begin-



ning to recognize gay families, the formal legal recognition that would automatically allow the gay life partner of an employee to be covered by the group policy does not yet exist outside of a handful of cities which have domestic partnership laws. A lawsuit challenging this inequity is pending in New York, brought by Lambda Legal Defense on behalf of gay teachers employed by the city's board of education. Some city council members have been working with community activists

insurance industry to exclude from coverage any treatment or medication which has not been generally accepted by the medical profession. Insurance companies routinely deny payment for drugs which have not been licensed by the Food and Drug Administration or which are characterized as "investigational." Serious threats of litigation have forced some insurance companies to begin paying for investigational AIDS drugs which have received only limited approval from the FDA. As to

Some form of national health system which does not restrict participation to those who are individually insurable seems the obvious societal solution, but our political leaders have strongly resisted this solution.

on domestic partnership legislation, but neither of these are likely to produce widespread change quickly.

Those who can obtain health insurance through an employment-based group are not necessarily home free with regard to AIDS. There are significant loopholes in the laws regulating insurance and employee benefits and customary exclusions from coverage in standard insurance policies. The direct regulation of insurance company practices is a matter of state law. Under New York state regulations, insurance companies may not exclude particular diseases from coverage under a health insurance policy. Some states do not have such a requirement, so people covered by health insurance in those states may discover that the fine print in the policy excludes coverage for HIV infection and related medical conditions.

It is also normal practice in the

other medical procedures, a New York court recently ordered Empire Blue Cross to pay for a bone marrow transplant for an HIV-infected man whose doctor contended that this procedure was his best hope to avoid developing CDC-defined AIDS. The insurer contended that such an operation was "experimental" in the context of AIDS, since it had only been tried a half-dozen times with mixed success. The judge ruled in *Bradley v. Empire Blue Cross* that insurance companies should not be dictating medical procedures to doctors. It is too soon, however, to know whether other courts will follow this opinion.

Finally, health insurance policies normally exclude coverage for medical conditions which existed before the effective date of the policy. Under some policies, this exclusion only lasts for a defined period; under others, the exclusion of coverage may be permanent.

Thus, a new employee covered by group insurance may not qualify for coverage for an HIV-related condition for which he was already receiving treatment before becoming employed. Many insurance companies will also try to get out of paying for HIV-related conditions if there is any evidence that the employee knew of his positive HIV-antibody status prior to employment. Such an approach is contrary to the public health goal of getting people to learn their HIV status, obtain early prophylactic treatment and not transmit the virus, since it encourages new employees to remain ignorant about their own health in order to get coverage. Some companies even try to squirm out of honoring claims when there is a record of treatment for other sexually transmitted diseases, but these attempts are being strongly opposed in court.

Unfortunately, a major loophole in the law has, in many cases, made employee group health insurance coverage for employees with HIV-related conditions practically unavailable for many persons. Although states may regulate insurance companies which sell health-coverage policies to employers, a federal law governing employee benefits prevents the states from regulating employers who pay the health bills of their employees under self-insurance programs. The federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act, also known as the Pension Reform Act, prevents state regulation of employee benefits programs. But the federal law does not provide direct regulation of the content of such programs in the area of health care. This curious situation will probably not be affected by the new Americans With Disabilities Act, which contains provisions evidently intended to preserve the status quo regarding employee benefits issues.

The result is a major gap in regulation. Large numbers of employers take advantage of this situation by converting their health plans to self-insurance and then excluding or tightly capping coverage for HIV-related conditions. Lambda is pursuing two test cases challenging these practices. Unfortunately, a federal trial judge in Texas ruled in July in *McGann v. H & H Music* that the employer's limitation of HIV-related claims to a lifetime maximum of \$5,000 is completely legal.

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SEE PAGE 71

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Lambda is appealing that ruling. Meanwhile, the switch to self-insurance (with AIDS exclusions) is becoming widespread as employers try to cut their health insurance costs.

A final concern regarding employee group insurance is that businesses which have experienced significant HIV-related claims or which operate in industries considered "high risk" for AIDS claims, have found it very difficult to obtain insurance. In addition, those with existing group policies have been hit with substantial premium increases as a result of past HIV-related claims. The Whitman-Walker Clinic in Washington, DC, received such a large premium increase for its staff health plan that its director announced that the clinic may have to close. The DC City Council passed a special appropriation to pay part of the premium, but Mayor Marion Barry vetoed it, and the future of Whitman-Walker, a major provider of HIV-related services, remains uncertain.

Things are even worse for those who have to prove their insurability. Small employers cannot obtain the kind of large group policy which allows employees to qualify without a medical examination (including an HIV-antibody test). Self-employed individuals or those whose employers provide no health benefits are in the same boat. It is legal for insurance companies to require the HIV-antibody test everywhere in the United States. Many states have passed laws regulating the manner in which tests are administered (requirements for informed consent, counseling and confidentiality are widespread), but no state forbids an insurance company from requiring testing and making insurability decisions based on the test.

The insurance companies which have decided to test applicants consider HIV-positive individuals uninsurable. This judgment is based on studies which show that the risk of an HIV-positive person developing medical complications requiring a payout of benefits is considerably higher than other risks which insurance companies assume. At first blush, there seems little basis for arguing with this

conclusion. While something like 7 percent of smokers are likely to develop lung cancer after several decades of smoking, epidemiological studies show that within five years of infection by HIV, well over 20 percent of those infected are likely to develop symptoms requiring medical treatment, and within ten years, more than half of those infected will have CDC-defined AIDS. The insurance companies' arguments about insurability appear strengthened as new medications are licensed for prophylactic use by asymptomatic people with HIV infection. Theoretically, anybody who is infected can immediately start generating payment claims by using prophylactic medication.

Insurance companies can take care of the enhanced risk of benefit claims from smokers by charging a higher, but still relatively affordable, premium for their coverage due to the small percentage of smokers who generate additional claims. With HIV infection, they argue that the premium would have to be so high that the insurance would not be affordable; even spread over the pool of all purchasers of individual insurance, they claim that a large increase in premiums would be required for everybody, which they characterize as "unfair" to those unlikely to acquire HIV infection.

At least one insurance company has given the lie to this claim. At the Sixth International AIDS Conference, in June, officials from Empire Blue Cross (New York's nonprofit insurer) reported that it was possible to provide coverage without HIV-antibody testing, because the proportion of the individual insurance-buying population which is HIV-positive is so small that the costs can be spread affordably over the entire pool of buyers in the same way that costs of other major illnesses are distributed. (Empire Blue Cross has open enrollment periods when individuals do not have to prove their insurability, and this is the only way for HIV-infected New Yorkers to obtain a minimally adequate general health insurance policy. Unfortunately, not every state's Blue Cross program pro-

vides this access.)

Empire Blue Cross officials stated that if the percentage of individual insurance buyers with HIV-infection were to increase significantly, the costs would become unmanageable. On an empirical basis, however, it appears that most of the increase in HIV infection in the New York city metropolitan area is occurring among IV-drug users and their sex partners, who are less likely to have the funds and the foresight to purchase individual insurance policies. It seems likely that others with HIV infection—gay and bisexual men and people who have received blood transfusions or clotting medication—are the main customers for such insurance, and their numbers are almost static. Indeed, as a percentage of the insurance-buying population, their numbers are probably declining. Consequently, legislators concerned about individual access to health care should ban the use of the HIV test as a determinant of insurability.

The bottom line, however, is that for many people the current situation is untenable. Thousands of HIV-infected employees may be covered by self-insured employer plans that exclude or cap HIV-related claims. Many more are excluded from obtaining individual insurance due to their HIV status or economic condition. In order to qualify for Medicaid, they must spend down their assets and drastically undermine the quality of their lives. A solution must be found which takes account of the health needs of all groups affected by HIV and all other uninsured Americans.

One immediate, though inadequate, solution is to allow HIV-infected people who need insurance to participate in the Medicare system. Some form of national health system which does not restrict participation to those who are individually insurable seems the obvious societal solution, but our political leaders have strongly resisted this solution. This problem should be a major focus for political organizing and direct action during the '90s and would provide a strong basis for political coalitions with other groups suffering from lack of access to quality health care.▼

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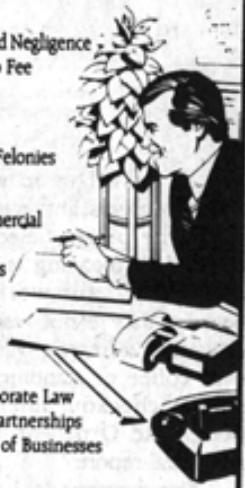
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Compounding Things

by Bo Huston

You know how in articles about treatments and medicine we run across the phrase "anecdotal reports"? Its implicit meaning is that these are not really trustworthy accounts because they're not assembled statistically; they're merely things people say over coffee or standing in the supermarket checkout line. Well, I am a Compound Q patient, and here's my anecdotal report:

Five months ago, I appeared at the appointed hour at my doctor's busy office. (For this article, I will refer to my doctor as Dr. X.) The waiting room was decorated in soothing violets but stocked with lousy magazines. First I was asked to sign a ten-page statement which essentially gave my permission to be infused with trichosanthin and detailed the experimental nature of this chemotherapy, listed the horrifying possibilities of the drug: coma, blindness, increased HIV activity—this stuff can even cause death. I signed.

Dr. X was of course extremely enthusiastic, almost giddy with the positive potential of the drug. Though all results are preliminary and dosages have not yet been figured out, it was clear that Dr. X and his associates believed that Q was a significant treatment for HIV, that it will lengthen life, improve health, maybe even cure people.

The Q comes in a little glass vial with Chinese characters printed on it. The nurse breaks this vial, pulls the liquid into a syringe, shoots it into an IV bag. I sit there for a few hours being monitored—blood pressure, temperature and pulse are all tested every half-hour or so.

By the time the treatment is finished, I feel quite lightheaded, and my vision is a little blurred. I can barely make out the \$250 check to Dr. X. Then, I take a taxi home.

The first few times, it is suggested that someone stay with the patient, in

case he or she drops off into a coma, and it is recommended that every few hours the patient be awakened and asked simple questions to establish mental clarity, because neurological damage is one of the risks.

The effects of the Q on me physically have been fairly typical and what I was led to expect. I felt like I'd been

There is an aspect to this whole process, whether with Compound Q or any other new drug, the documentation of which must be anecdotal: That is the emotional, psychic toll. It's damn scary to be infused with some weird cucumber extract.

hit by a speeding bus and thrown a couple of blocks. Within five hours, every muscle ached, the stiffness and soreness were beyond anything I've known.

Through that night and the following day my body is host to a mysterious duel of temperatures. I find myself perspiring, weak, red, my throat sore and my temperature above 101 degrees; within 30 minutes, I am shaking violently, and I am pale, and my teeth are chattering. The aching makes walking into the kitchen or bathroom a

dreaded, difficult project.

Eventually, all this calms down. I don't sleep at all the first night and only for hour stretches the next day. But, they told me all of this would happen.

There is an aspect to this whole process, whether with Q or any other new drug, the documentation of which must be anecdotal: That is the emotional, psychic toll. It's damn scary to be infused with some weird cucumber extract.

Q is actually a root, I think. That is appropriate, because this drug, and the whole experience, seem to dig deep. A slow, but by now predictable, process begins. Over the days and nights in bed I am somehow brought closer to AIDS, its implications, and a perception of myself in relation to it.

The first time I took the Q, my lover, Dan, came home from work, made us some supper, then settled himself cozily in bed with books (he likes Trollope), intending to stay up through the night keeping watch. By 1 am, *Perry Mason* was on, and Dan drifted to sleep. Every time I changed positions, he awoke, held my hand, asked if I was all right. I kept telling him I was fine. I've noticed the most peculiar feelings I have toward him and other people during my "Q days." I am afraid to be left alone, and I want him near, but I become withdrawn, extremely remote, deadened. I cannot run to the store or even make myself a sandwich, and my dependence on Dan or others is foreign and horrifying to me. I stare at the TV, keep the volume low. After *Perry Mason*, there are other reruns, movies, talk shows. By 4:30 am when *Hazel* comes on, I have the distinct sense that I am lost, that what little I know of myself is mistaken, that what little I like about myself is erased.

And the experience of those long days and evenings and nights is also about memory. Quick, dim images of

old boyfriends and drugs and the books I read as a child. It is as though Q and my imagination have conjured up a box of papers and pictures so that I can see myself before this time—before AIDS. So sick, my strength and motion so limited, virtually alone with a stream of moments and faces from my past. This must be what dying is like.

After four or five days, I begin to recover from this emotional, physical other world. It's like in the old movies where someone is blind and the serious, handsome doctor takes layers of bandages from around his eyes, and the nurse and the hospital room slowly come into focus. There is an indescribable but very simple joy to recovery. Illness is the great transformer, and so is the restoration of health. Suddenly, I feel gratitude for the simplest things—having a cup of coffee, taking a drive, being cruised on the street.

And then a few weeks go by and it is time to take the drug again. Each month I am tempted not to take the treatment, seeing that the emotional price, which I can only inadequately describe here, is so strong, so powerful...and for what? For some drug that may or may not bring up my T-cells a bit? And what does that prove anyway? And Dr. X can never know what I go through, what my friends and family go through, between my visits to his office.

I'm a classic, stubborn cynic. For me, AIDS has represented a pervasive social and political phenomena which mostly makes me angry, and a personal confrontation with mortality which makes me afraid. For me, it's all about survival, and my defenses get locked into place. Perhaps it is unfortunate, but I do not consider AIDS a gift; I consider it a worldwide trauma. You will not catch me at healing circles taking deep breaths. I do not focus on various organs and say affirmations about them. I do not believe that Dr. X is actually out to get me, but I don't have a lot of trust in him either; his career, I realize, will continue impressively whichever list of statistics I end up on.

But I must have some cells, hiding somewhere, replicating instincts that say: You can live...it isn't over yet...endure the pain the best you can, don't give up...seek some beauty...survive, survive. ▼

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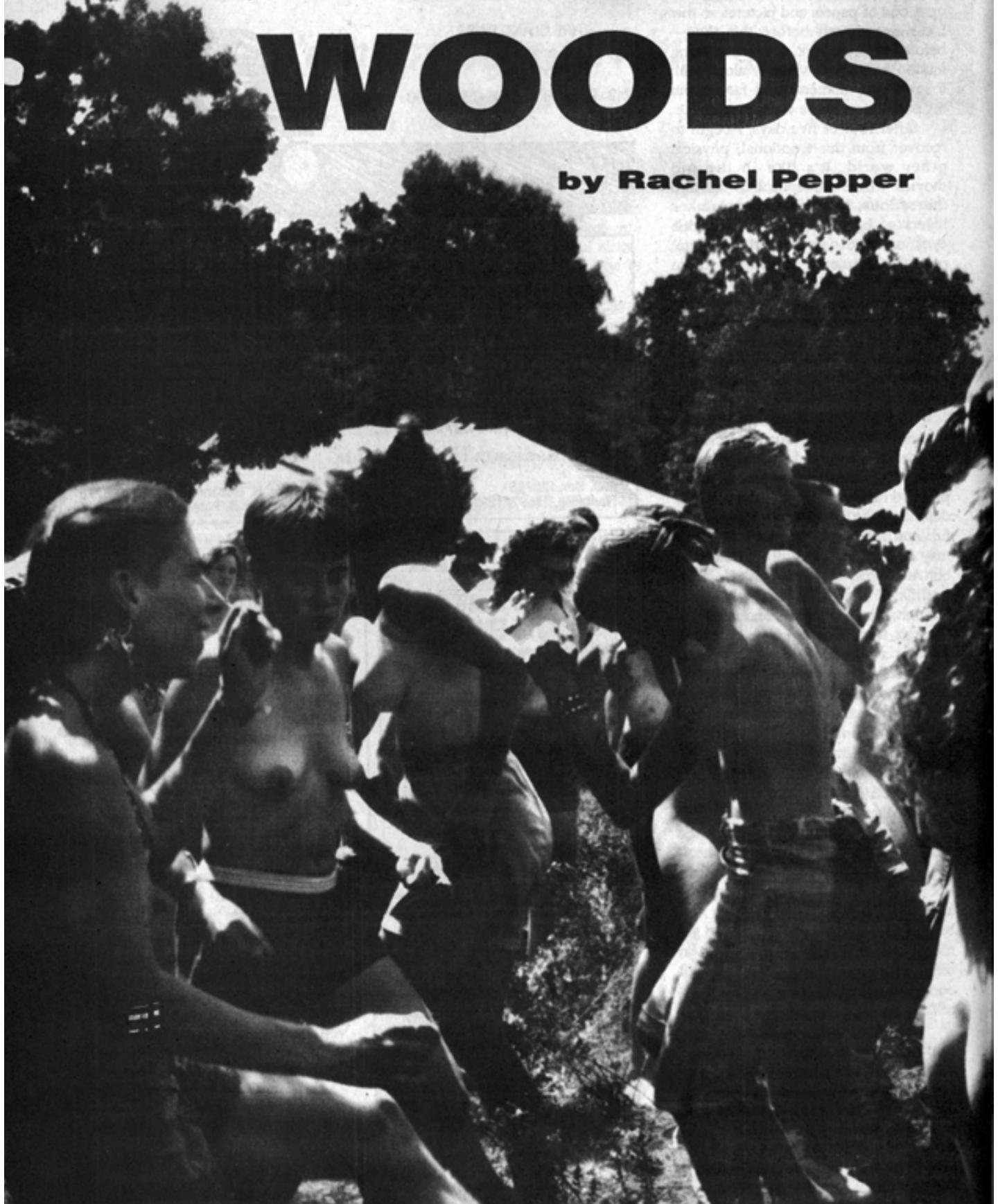
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INTO THE WOODS

by Rachel Pepper



Each August, thousands of lesbians head north for that annual event known as the Michigan Women's Music Festival. Seeking peace, love and harmony, they sometimes fall upon infighting, S/M debates and racial tensions. But that doesn't stop them from going—nor from reveling in the one-of-a-kind happening.



Michigan!

Mention that one word to almost any lesbian, and she will look at you, smile and sigh. Though the Michigan Women's Music Festival, the largest annual gathering of lesbians in the world, is well known among dykes everywhere, it is also a well-guarded family secret. Information about the festival is spread largely through the lesbian grapevine, and a single small brochure published each spring lists that year's performers and admission fees. The elusive organizers don't seek advance publicity—and rarely speak to reporters at all, perhaps for fear of having the festival exploited or misrepresented.

While it is true that the name of the festival reflects the geographic state it is held in, Michigan, as it's called, has also become very much its own state of mind. It's a code word, a test word and a word which can get you through cold winters, broken hearts and a homophobic, woman-hating world. It's a rite of passage for new dykes and a place to return for others. For many, Michigan is their only true spiritual home.

Having been to the last two festivals, I felt in the know about the fest and what it means for many women. Yet, I also know that I have my own personal, very differing expectations each time I go up, and that each woman's festival experience is completely different. So how could I, a single, young, white woman with her own urban biases, fairly portray an experience shared by 8,000 women to a readership with little knowledge of the festival's existence?

No problem, I told my editor. The thought of cruising thousands of women while on assignment for the country's most happening gay mag was too much of a good thing to pass up. So, notepad in hand and *OutWeek* photographer Barbara Seyda in tow, I traversed the land, hoping to capture what, for thousands of women, is the quintessential lesbian experience.

Ihe Michigan Women's Music Festival was formally born in 1976, when 2,000 women came for a three-day event on 120 acres of Michigan farmland. Back in the stone age of "women's music," bringing so

many "liberated" women together in the woods must have been a great act of courage for its organizers, who lacked money and experience in feeding and entertaining such a crowd.

The following year, the fest was moved to the "Old Land" and, in 1982, it moved to its current site near Hart. Attendance has risen and fallen over the years, with more women coming after a summer of glorious weather and fewer after disasters like the shigella outbreak of 1988. Festival organizers Boo Price and Lisa Vogel admit to wondering whether the need for the fest was diminishing over the years. But on the day the gate opened this year, there were already 3,000 women on the land, and this year's record attendance of more than 8,000 should prove to all that the festival is here to stay.

Getting to the fest is its own story. Because it is located in the Midwest, a large contingent of festival-goers drive from cities like Chicago, Ill., or Madison, Wis., passing through towns on the way with suggestive names like New Era, Ferryville and Fruitvale. About three hours into the nearly five-hour drive, my own car contingent started playing "spot the dyke," look-

ing for telltale sleeping bags in the back windows of cars packed with women. Blasting Sinead, we pulled up to a small-town K-mart to get our last packs of gum. The strange looks we got, we realized, were due to our short haircuts and my DYKE FAG SPACE T-shirt and not anything we were buying. Soon we were there, two more dykes having made the trek that for many is an event around which the rest of their lives are planned.

For others, the journey is more difficult, or more expensive, than a five-hour car ride. Women come from all corners of the continent to get to the fest, often driving from Montreal, San Francisco or Texas. This year, I met women who had bicycled to the fest from Oregon. And, as always, there was a sizeable contingent of women from overseas, including Germany, Australia, England, Africa and the Soviet Union, who flew into Grand Rapids and got picked up by a festival bus. Organizers now estimate that more than 90,000 women have walked through the gates of the festival since they first opened.

What is it that draws women to this annual gathering in remote Michigan? Of course, it is the music—12 scheduled three-set concerts over four days. This year's concerts included performances by the Washington Sisters, Faith Nolan, Alix Dobki, Heather Bishop, Vicki Randle and Casselberry-Dupree, as well as live poetry by Judy Grahn, comedy by Marga Gomez, a collaborative tribute to Black women and the blues, dub poetry by Lillian Allen and the percussive splendor of the Sawagi Taiko drummers. Wherever you are on the land, you can count on hearing women making music together.

This year, however, the musical lineup seemed a tad tame to me. Perhaps because it was an anniversary year, there seemed to be an added emphasis at the fest on honoring the old guard. Consequently, sets by festival old-timers like Linda Tillery and Holly Near got precedent over those by the vanguard of women's music, like Two Nice Girls. Many expressed surprise, in fact, at the delegation of

the hottest out lesbian group at the festival to the day performance-area rather than giving them their deserved spot on the festival's more touted Night Stage. Perhaps expanding the festival by a day or two will make it easier to satisfy everyone's artistic egos while making sure performers are assigned to the stage best suited to their abilities and following.

In addition to the music, there are the workshops. Taking 22 pages to describe in the festival program, workshops range from special all-day intensive sessions on Wednesday to shorter ones during the rest of the fest. There are close to 200 scheduled workshops on subjects ranging from networking for lesbian twins to dyke scientists, female ejaculation, rattle making and lesbian co-parenting. Workshop titles this year included: "Nerds: A Cultural Workshop," "Fun With Bad Poetry," "Amazon Cellular Memory" and "Dreadlocks: The Roots of Power, Not Just Another Exotic Hairstyle." There are also ongoing meetings at the Sober Support tent and the Oasis, an emotional support area for women in trauma.

But it is the impromptu gatherings which always define the festival. Advertised by word of mouth or posters in the Porta Janes, these were the sessions just thought of the week before or too radical to be officially sanctioned. They consisted of, this year, all S/M events, Phranc's home movies, a screening of a radical dyke flick called *Snatch* and a networking session for women involved in ACT UP and Queer Nation in the US and Canada. The only workshop I attended this year, the networking session, turned out to be an inspiring hobnob for activist city dykes, a blast of urban reality I sorely needed after three days of connecting with rain-drenched Mother Earth.

Music and workshops aside, there is another reason women still flock to the festival. Michigan is one of the few remaining safe spaces in the world for women. Here, girls and women are free to walk alone by day or night without fear of attack, a frame of mind to which even experienced festival-goers take a day or so to adjust. Needless to say, going back out into the "real" world after the fest is even more of a shock.



And these days, Michigan is also a place to remember the importance of building and rebuilding women's culture when women-only spaces like coffeehouses are under attack from some gay men who feel that, by not being admitted to such events, they are being discriminated against. For these, and a variety of other personal, political and cultural, reasons, going to Michigan has become one of the few known ways to stay sane in a man's world.

Though the festival is overwhelmingly white, it's still a veritable melting pot of women. Fat women with their clothes off, skinny women you wish would take their clothes off, women braving the land in wheelchairs, deaf women signing to each other, mothers carting around babies on their hips or in wagons, and young girls running safely through the land. Bald women. Punk women. Hairy women. Androgynous women. Straight women. City dykes. Country dykes. Francophones. Anglophones. Separatists. Sadomasochists. Anarchists. Fems. Butches. Dykes wearing Birkenstocks. Dykes wearing no shoes at all.

For every festival-goer, there is a story and, with it, compliments and complaints. First-timer (or "festivirgin") Heidi Vogel, from Cincinnati, says that she plans to come "every year for the rest of my life." Danielle, a 10-year-old from Minneapolis, loves the fest so much, she's already been three times (with her mom). And Pat "Rose" Dodson, a 65-year-old straight mother of an adult lesbian who also attended, finds the whole experience "incredibly energizing."

Others are more cynical. Jessie Toomey and Jennifer Gillmor drove to Michigan from Toronto. Reacting to the overabundance of "rules and regulations" on the land, they set up a separate "anarchists' campground" and were "trying to break as many rules as possible." Several women sneaked into the grounds without paying to protest the fest's climbing admission fee, \$185 for five days (a one-day pass is \$50). Others were critical of having to work on their vacation (*everyone* is required to sign-up for a four-hour work shift),

of a nonflexible fee schedule at the gate, of the fact that fewer "alternative" women attended this year because of a perceived abundance of self-policing, and shortages of food,

though organizers apparently spent thousands of dollars on a Friday night fireworks display.

No festival would be complete without the expected roster of "hot

The Winning Duo...er... Threesome

I'm going to take you to queer bars, /I'm going to drive you in queer cars./ You're going to meet all of my queer friends,/ our queer queer fun—it never ends./ We're going to have a happy life /both of us are going to be the wife.

from "The Queer Song,"
by Two Nice Girls

Two Nice Girls, the out lesbian rock band from Austin, Tex., gave the greatest performance at this year's Michigan Women's Music Festival. To the excited screams of thousands of dancing and singing fans, drummer Pam Berger and singer/guitarists Gretchen Phillips, Kathy Korniloff and Meg Hentges, the four fine dykes who comprise Two Nice Girls, worked the crowd into a frenzy with their usual mix of out sensibility, sexually charged lyrics, great music, and gosh-darn dyke cuteness.

Since the release of their first album, *Two Nice Girls*, in early 1989 on Rough Trade Records, and their more recent six-song EP, "Like a Version," these women have been building a faithful national and international following. This year marked their first appearance at Michigan, and the Goddess must have been watching, for she blessed their set with the only sun we saw the whole weekend. But somehow, that didn't seem so strange. After all, how could it rain on the only four women present at this lesbian fest who dare to sing of lesbian desire the way many of us actually experience it?

If one wanted to analyze the contribution of Two Nice Girls to the future of lesbian music, one could easily say that they are the future. With the help of a few other performers, like Phranc, Two Nice Girls have been at the vanguard of creating contemporary lesbian music for an

increasingly appreciative, diverse audience of women who actually want their performers to wail out lines like "I'm going to tell you how it's going to be./Soon you're going to be fucking me."

Indeed, because the band is willing, both personally and in their music, to state that they are queer, they have fast become role models in a community continually starved for them. The band now receives, according to Phillips, more than ten fan letters per week, many of them from "young, agonized dykes." And by strutting around during their live set, making suggestive banter between dyke-identified numbers like "Goons" and "The Queer Song" and by incorporating some realistic-sounding orgasms into their songs, they had the audience screaming for more in an almost unprecedented two-encore set.

As I waited to interview the gals in front of the "Old Cuntree Store," women passing by recognized them despite their camouflage of generic rain gear, and many stopped to say hello. Still enthralled, several tripped over themselves in the mud trying to tell the band how much they admired them. One bold woman, obviously starstruck by Phillips' onstage orgasms, came to within an inch of her face and, staring intensely, said, "I just wanted to see what you look like up close." True star-status is obviously close at hand in a lesbian world which Phillips unabashedly admits is "hungry for sex talk and orgasms."

And she's right. After their performance, a very long line of women waited to meet the group and have their albums signed, while everywhere chests proudly sported Two Nice Girls T-shirts. Two Nice Girls are popular, particularly among younger lesbians, because post-Stonewall dykes appreciate the band's ability to rock 'n' roll and their decision to be out onstage. As fan Susan Crawshaw of Chicago explains: "They're having a great time up there without having to be so earnest about it. It's about time that we saw lesbians being sexy onstage." ▼

—R.P.

Going Up Solo

When I considered going to Michigan this year, I thought about what it would mean that I was going up solo. For two years in a row I'd experienced Michigan's sexual magic with that year's lover, affirming our friendship during sun-kissed days and celebrating our love under starry skies, victims of Michigan's special spell.

So, memories being what they are, I was hesitant to walk the festival trails alone. With no steady girlfriend to put up my tent, I doubted whether I'd survive the weekend. Nevertheless, it didn't take much persuasion from a good friend to let her fly me out from San Francisco to join her for the fest. The magic of Michigan was beckoning, and this Castro street girl knew that a weekend's dose of woman-only space would probably do her soul good.

We set up our tents and cruised around, eying girls and talking sex. But soon my cohort, missing the woman she was dating in Chicago, suffered a heady attack of alone-at-Michigan angst, and drove home after only one day. Suddenly, my safety net was gone. Smooching women seemed to be everywhere. I kept seeing old girlfriends with their new flames, and the sounds of other women making love hung heavy in the night air. I started to wonder whether I'd made a mistake coming to Michigan this year.

Then I met her. In my reportorial wanderings, I stumbled upon a group of women dancing and drumming in the woods. After taking in the whole tribal scene of women chanting and throwing themselves on the ground in time to the most bewitching beat, my eyes fixed on an orange-haired girl playing the *taiko*. Clad in a tank top and ripped biker shorts, her body swayed to the rhythm of her drumming, sweat dripping from her face. When she opened her eyes to take a break, I offered her a drink of water, and she smiled at me. I was completely and immediately in love.

We spent a good part of the next

two days together, my solo Michigan experience suddenly and irrevocably changed. We hung out together, talked about differences between US and Canadian dykes and rode into town with her friends to eat a nonvegetarian meal out of the rain. As the local folks gaped, her pals commanded the town's only pool table while we fucked outside in their van. Late at night, after everyone else had fallen asleep, we made love for hours as the rain pounded down on the roof of my tent, eventually lulling me to sleep in the arms of a woman with whom, though I barely knew her, I felt incredibly connected. Yes, Michigan was working its magic on me once again.

She and her friends had to begin their long drive back to Toronto all too soon. I gave her my Keith Haring T-shirt, and she told me that she'd try to come visit, as we and other new couples everywhere kissed goodbye tenderly. We were happier to have met than we were saddened to part. That night, alone and freezing in my leaking tent, I thought about her warmth as I lay on my rain-soaked sleeping bag, my leather jacket covering as much of my body as possible. As I huddled into a little ball and waited for exhaustion to pull me into sleep, I wondered if she and I would date if we lived in the same region of North America.

A day later I was back in San Francisco, coping with lost luggage, endless activist meetings, impending journalistic deadlines and a more local romantic interest. My whole Michigan experience was seeming farther and farther away. Had I really just been to the promised land, and, if so, why did it feel so good to be back home? Was my everyday life already so affirming that I no longer needed to attend all of the women's festivals? Or was the memory of the damn rain just discouraging me?

When I developed my festival photos, there she was again, playing the *taiko* drum and looking just as cute as I remembered. Suddenly I was transported back to the festival, flooded by memories of her touch, her taste, of how she bit my neck as I made her moan. I think of the magic of Michigan and realize without a doubt that someday I'll go back again. ▼

—R.P.

topics." Heated debate took place the previous summer over male children on the land (boys up to three years of age are now allowed; older males must stay at a boy's camp just outside fest grounds), racism at the festival and play space for S/M women on the land. Indeed, this year the expected issues did blow up, threatening to create an ideological war zone between groups of women all there, in theory, to promote the concept of a diverse, harmonious lesbian nation.

While racism is actively combated at the fest, including preseason "unlearning racism" sessions for workers and 13 workshops addressing the political and cultural issues of women of color, there were racial confrontations, and the festival's annual march against racism turned nasty when it moved into the crafts marketplace and marchers accosted white craftswomen who, they felt, have unfairly used certain symbols, particularly Native American ones, in their work.

Phyllis Pennesse, a Black woman from Chicago, goes to the festival to relax and for a rare opportunity to connect with other lesbians of color while doing her work shift in the Women of Colors tent. She says that while she personally feels that "Michigan is a wonderful thing to have and place to be," she has been frustrated by a lack of awareness at the fest over issues important to women of color. She points out, for example, that while many white women come to the Women of Colors tent to listen to drum jams, these same women do not necessarily participate in less "exotic" cross-cultural bridging, like forums on racism. Pennesse says that only by limiting some workshops to women of color could participants feel truly safe.

While women of color have their own space partitioned off, leather women at this year's festival had to contend with the opposite problem. Long-tolerated on the land, and as much a part of building the fest's history as any other group, fest organizers this year took an open stand against their activities. After complaints from a group of sex-police separatists called the Seps—Separatists Against Sadomasochism—festival organizers released a statement in February to fest workers stating that due to "sharp disregard for

other women attending the festival," S/M activities would no longer be tolerated at Michigan. S/M quickly threatened to be "the" issue of 1990.

Although some leather women and their supporters boycotted the fest this year, S/M women were indeed present, albeit slightly more cautious about whom they invited to their play parties. But play these women did—in a remote corner of the land designed to be out of every wandering separatist's way. While not officially approved, leather women did have their own well-attended daily gatherings to demonstrate such arts as quick-release knot tying, temporary piercing, fist-fucking and a closing night "Slave Auction" where participants paid with already earned "fuck bucks."

The S/M women had the fest's best moment, however, when an unmarked, low-flying plane swooped overhead on Saturday afternoon to drop fliers about the S/M controversy into the waiting arms of women all over the grounds. The flier, which we thought was going to be right-wing religious banter, was actually reprinted articles from the *Advocate* and *Gay Community News*. It also included an open letter from the Outcasts, a Bay Area lesbian S/M support group. In

their statement, the Outcasts called on fest organizers to accommodate S/M women's needs at the fest as they have other women's. "To fail to do so," the flier reads, "is clearly discriminatory." For the rest of the weekend, the S/M question was aired continually on pathways, shuttles and in meal lines.

Oh yes, the rains: In an outdoor festival with no shelter except for a few large, communal tents, this year's constant rain dampened spirits. Although many women bravely stuck it out, a larger-than-usual exodus from the grounds Sunday afternoon left some women waiting in the rain for more than an hour to catch a shuttle. Many of the concerts had poor attendance as women stayed in their tents, rather than brave the elements, and some concerts almost didn't happen at all.

In fact, Sweet Honey in the Rock, the inspirational Black women's a cappella quintet, had their performance delayed by a torrential downpour Saturday night, only to brave the



weather at 1 am to play for a shrunken crowd of several hundred. Across the grounds, scores of already-drenched women crushed into the Community tent to seek refuge from the storm, drink hot coffee and try to dry off. As they socialized under the tent instead of at the rained-out annual singles dance, a group of antsy city girls, myself included, entertained the masses. Stripped down to leather jackets over bare chests and shorts, we sat in a circle and sang '70s songs, making music with forks on coffee cans, empty beer bottles, croquet sticks and Jen's conga to the good-natured applause of our captive—if not captivated—audience. It was, for me, one of the festival's finest moments.

ome now for several weeks, I've been letting memories of the festival swirl around my brain. I think of all the women who told me their stories, and the many more whom I never got the chance to hear. I think of the antagonism between the separatists and the S/M women and wonder when fest organizers will realize that it is equally important that both groups be present and vocal on the land. For, as Two Nice Girls' Gretchen Phillips said, "Women telling other women how to have sex is like straight people telling gays and lesbians how to have sex."



Rachel Pepper writes free-lance for the international gay and lesbian press. She has a reverence for Michigan that has survived shigella, nonstop rain, S/M intolerance and a shortage of pita bread. She lives and works in San Francisco's gay Castro.



The Coast is Queer!



Photo: Chuck Stellard

A mushrooming Los Angeles gay underground gets up, gets out and gets off.

by Jim Provenzano

You've eaten at Fabula, the 110-percent gay Mexican restaurant, and brunched at ultrachic Hugo's. You've cruised West Hollywood's video bars and had a fine time. But now you want something less upscale, a bit more funky. Take heart, *activantes*, and drive over to the burgeoning alternative scene, woven loosely between rapidly growing ACT UP/LA, newly formed Queer Nation/LA and the performance art and club scene that stretches from Santa Monica to the surrounding 'burbs.

Wild entertainment of all sorts can be found outside

the usual gay enclaves listed in *Damron's* and the *Gayellow Pages*. Most notable are the Tuesday night parties thrown by the somewhat anonymous Sin Brothers. Their Sit and Spin events (named after a bizarre vertigo-inducing child's toy) have recently taken place at the Latino bar, Plaza. The party's incredible popularity, however, has resulted in round-the-block lines as early as 9 pm. "We started on Thursday nights in January," says Sin Brother Jeff Hilbertz. "Then we closed for a bit and reopened at Las Estrellas, this Mexican drag bar. Then it started to snowball."

On a successful night, nearly naked go-go boys and girls inspire a giddy mix of terpsichorean festivity. A wide selection of habitués include tattooed Latino boys, myste-

rious black-clad lesbian artistes, combat-booted kids and a gay array of celebrities, including scene-maker and *Exposure* columnist Lance Loud, porn star Joey Stefano, outrageous drag star Chi Chi la Rue and female impersonator Jimmy James. The Sin Brothers also publish a small *My Comrade*-style magazine called—what else?—*Sin Brothers*, which is filled with zippy articles and ads from area boutiques and gay stores, providing a guide to alternative funk culture.

Tied in with this emerging queer playground is the rapid growth of ACT UP/LA, whose hundreds-strong membership may force the group to move their weekly meetings in quaint Plummer Park to a larger space. (Along with fighting AIDS, many people admittedly come to socialize,

At the core of this new-sprung, West Coast '90s sensibility are the artists, who shuffle from highway underpasses and clubs, rethinking a liberating perspective.

underpasses and clubs, rethinking a liberating perspective. Recently catapulted to fame as one of the gang of four defunded by the NEA for being too queer, Tim Miller saddles the additional responsibilities of directing Highways, the West Coast equivalent of New York's PS 122 (which Miller co-founded). Among Highways' recent successes



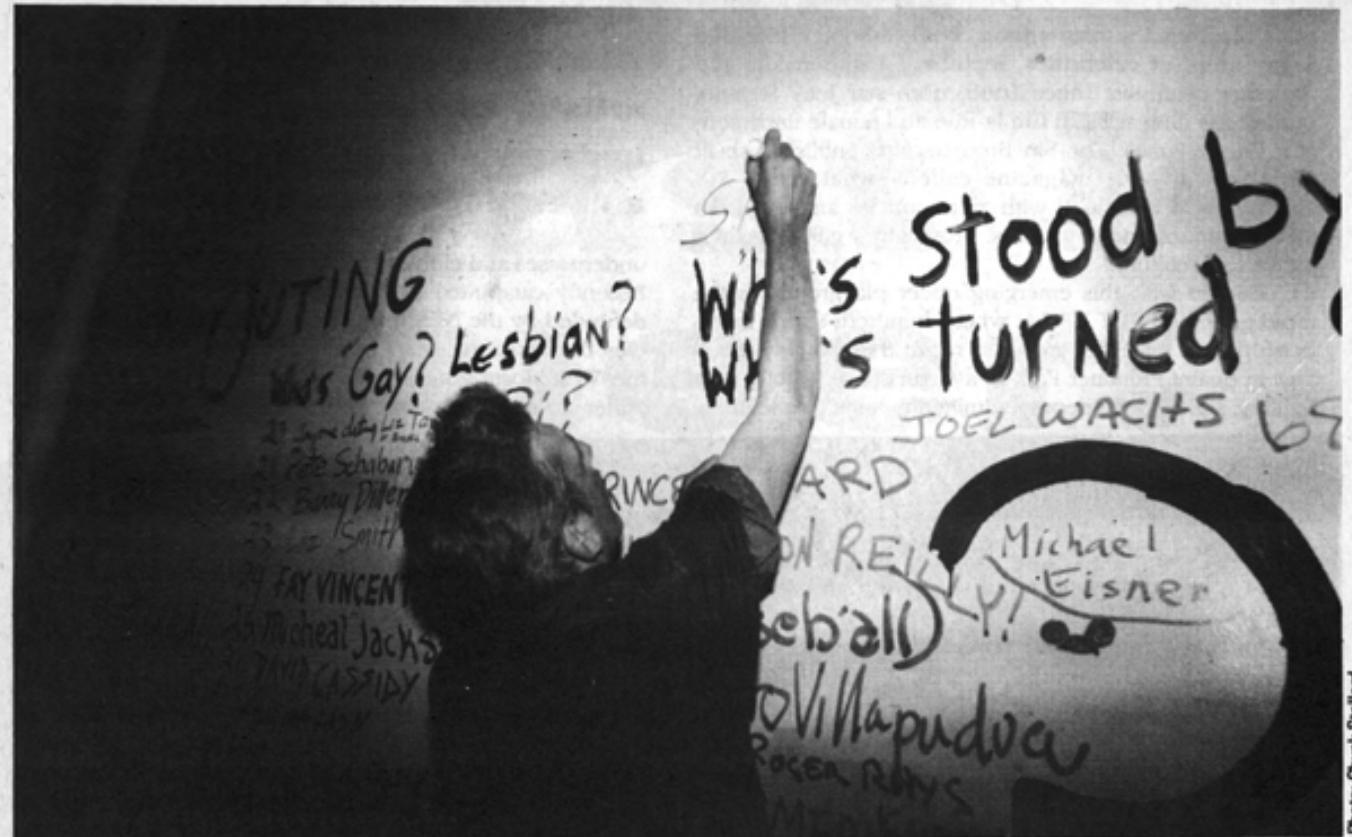
Photo: Jim Provenzano/OutWeek

make contacts and just plain cruise.) In addition to AIDS activism, LA's lesbian and gay community has managed to develop a diverse environment of queer freedoms. For mainstream pride, last June's Lesbian and Gay Pride parade, sponsored by Christopher Street West, proved to be LA's largest yet. On the flip side, guerrilla activists successfully launched an anti-Andrew Dice Clay campaign, defacing *Ford Fairlaine* billboards citywide. Artist Robbie Conal's 14-foot-by-48-foot Jesse Helms billboard on Santa Monica Boulevard (it reads: "Artificial Art Official") raised quite a few eyebrows. The mock terrorist group Agfe plasters small posters with similar intentions. The most popular street poster is a simple painting of a young man of color, his mouth covered by a pale Uncle Sam hand. The words below read: "Censorship is unAmerican." (The poster, funded by Virgin Records, is now making appearances on the East Coast as well.)

At the core of this new-sprung, West Coast '90s sensibility are the artists, who shuffle from highway

are the Ecce Lesbo, Ecce Homo Gay and Lesbian Performance Art Festival, which featured Holly Hughes, Seattle's Alice B. Theatre and San Francisco favorite Keith Hennessy. "It's all happened in the last year, and it's pretty amazing," Miller says of the new scene. Highways is located in a budding arts complex in Santa Monica's warehouse district, which includes an electronic video café and the offices of *High Performance*, the noted quarterly devoted to performance and conceptual art.

It was on an especially audacious near-full-moon August night that these elements coalesced. In a warehouse near Highways in Santa Monica, the Sin Brothers and producers Marcus Nazario and Mario Tamayo held an immensely successful ACT UP/LA benefit. Before the event began, audience members participating in Keith Hennessy's "Saliva" were led to backyard railroad tracks to witness the last act of his



THE HANDWRITING'S ON THE WALL—*Sit and Spin's outing wall*

work. Hennessy combined pigment and nonoxynol 9 with the combined spit of each audience member, ritually slathered it on his nude body and then danced in a circle of dried palm fronds and hand prints. Following the show, many viewers crossed the parking lot to join the benefit line, already a hundred strong.

Upon entering, party-goers were invited to scrawl their nominations on the outing wall. Other diversions included a drag booth (with complimentary tutus, gowns and a variety of Max Factor cosmetics), a shaving booth (where tits, testicles and tushes were smoothed hairless) and an array of homo and lesbo-erotic murals. Late into the night, the shaving room became a testostoroom, where many boys' groping hands and lustful lips found immediate satisfaction. Onstage, performance artists of the night included Curtis York, who inserted liquid pie mix up his butt with a pastry cone and then, while twirling a baton to a Sousa march, shat it on an American flag, redefining the term "mixed media."

The evening was hostessed by tall, dark and fabulous Vaginal Creme

Davis, the West Coast's doppelgänger to Manhattan's Ru Paul. Davis flitted onstage in Southern-belle drag, while two tanned, muscular men clad only in panty hose recreated a tumultuous Princeton rub on a massage table. Also erotic yet political was Dale Griner's installation, "George Bush Is Fucking Me," visible through a glass office window. Griner hung in a leather sling surrounded by dildos named "Fear, Denial and Repression," while a torpid slo-mo video of the president, hanging by chains, loomed over him.

Dance music included a ferocious assemblage of house, disco classics and industrial-rhythmic fallout. By 4 am, some opted for a trek to Probe, a dance club that stays open 'til noon. "We raised about \$12,000, after expenses," said Wendell Jones, one of ACT UP/LA's benefit organizers. "We wanted to create a positive atmosphere, where we could get over the nervousness to put our sexuality out."

By early dawn, pooped partiers had departed, leaving piles of beer bottles and a crowded outing wall crammed with names. Within a week,

the space was cleaned and painted, ready for renovation as artists' spaces. The collaborative team will be looking for a large party space elsewhere. "We try to find spaces that people don't normally go to," Hilbertz says.

What is unprecedented is that the Sin Brothers simply started Sit and Spin eight months ago because they were bored with the night life. While the membership of Queer Nation swells, ACT UP continues to draw in new activists of all cultures—all of whom eagerly take to the new queer social ambience. And Highways has only been around for a year, yet artists like Holly Hughes bring in sold-out audiences.

But, as with all such things, when the throngs come rushing, scene pioneers become disenchanted. Some say Sit and Spin is already too popular and choose the more bluntly named Club Fuck. Jeff Hilbertz notes: "Things seem to be happening right now. Another club called Sissy USA is starting up next month." No doubt it too will be over long before queer Easterners catch up.

lookout

Finally, truth in advertising on
Sheridan Square's huge billboard.

—M.S.

Marlboro

STOP JESSE HELMS
BOYCOTT
STOP HOMOPHOBIA * STOP AIDS

Surgeon General's warning: PREVIEW HAVING A CIGAR IS DANGEROUS TO YOUR HEALTH.

OUT OF MY HANDS

The telephone rang yesterday morning, waking me up from a lovely dream in which I was participating in a dance marathon during the Depression (though the whole thing was quite obviously rigged right from the start), and the caller mysteriously told me, "Aber etwas fehlt." I have been getting this same cryptic message every day for the past two weeks—ever since the disappearance of the Annual Summer Fudge Competition entries—and I'm beginning to suspect that there may be a connection. As my friend Ernst, formerly of the *OutWeek* copy room, has been on an extended vacation in the Canadian Rockies this entire summer, I've had to rely on my own sketchy knowledge of German in this instance and have roughly translated the message to mean "The fish is playing baseball," which, of course, make no sense whatsoever. Still, it's a clue and therefore not to be lightly dismissed.

Meanwhile, with a gay-owned and -operated marshmallow cream company angling for a major promotional tie-in, pressure is being brought to bear from above (i.e., the 61st-floor executive suites) for me to announce a winner in the ever-popular Annual Summer Fudge Competition, while at the same time my editor would like to know why I have temporarily discontinued "Dining Out!" Oblique references to the mail room have been made. As you well understand, I can't tell a living soul that the competition entries have been stolen, especially in view of the fact that I was in the commissary at the time and not at my desk, where I should have been, and I can't fully concentrate on my restaurant review duties until I figure out what's going on around here. That is the dilemma.

It would be a great help to me if I could just ascertain a motive. What could anybody possibly hope to gain from stealing all of the entries except the one submitted by Edelweiss' "aunt," the *OutWeek* personnel liaison who is also, coincidentally, on vacation? And just exactly what is this business about a fish that plays baseball?

Mystified, I snuck out of the office after leaving a message for my editor that I was off to review the Red Scare Restaurant (which has, I understand, been doing pretty wretched business of late) and went instead to the revolving cocktail lounge of the Marriott Marquis Hotel, where I do some of my best thinking, and where the pianist was playing "The Rink" from the Kander and Ebb musical of the same name. A new bartender was filling in for Hector, but that didn't strike me as extraordinary at the time, though I noticed that my martini had a chalky undertaste. During one of his breaks, the pianist sat down at the bar a few seats away from me. I asked him why he had stopped playing Jerry Herman



By Bradley Ball

tunes, and he looked at me quizzically before replying, "I can't abide Jerry Herman songs. They all sound the same." He lit a cigarette and went off to the men's room. The bartender wanted to know if I'd like another drink, and I was about to decline when he mentioned that it would be "on the house." Despite the undertaste, I could never pass up a free drink, so I agreed and took out a cigarette. Having left my lighter back at the office, I picked up the matchbook left behind by the pianist and was just about to close the cover before striking when I noticed this message addressed to me on the inside: "Bradley—Something else is needed. This is my

friend Johann. He will tell you. But I tell you, don't push yourself. If you can't, you can't—no dishonor. Whatever, I will meet you soon. Love, Julian." At that very moment, the lounge started spinning with increasing speed until everything became a blur, and I passed out.

Sometime later, I came to in my apartment. I'm not sure how I got there, but the telephone was ringing. I answered and once again heard, "Aber etwas fehlt." Today has passed without event except that I scream every time the phone rings. Demand has stepped up for both my review and a competition winner, and unless I can come up with some answers *tout de suite*, as the French say, I'm afraid I'm just going to have to award that pastry marble to Edelweiss' "aunt" by default. ▼

For Breeders Only!

(second in a series for our increasingly hetero audience)

Dear Mr. Homosexual,

Why do you prefer to call us "breeders" when: a) some of us will never have children; and b) many of you do and will?

—Hopelessly Hetero in Hyannisport

Dear HH,

Good question. I know it sounds crazy but see if you can grasp this: You people "breed." We, on the other hand, "make babies." Get it?

Dear Mr. Homosexual,

I've been straight for some 40 years now, but suddenly I'm experiencing strange feelings for other women. What's happened?

—Marge from Manhattan

Dear Marge,

Check your broccoli. Last year's crop was tainted by militant gay Iraqi terrorists with a chemical that affects the pituitary gland. Why do you think George Bush didn't eat any while Barbara, an avid broccoli eater, found herself writing letters to Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays? Then there's fickle Sandra Bernhard who sucks up lots of broccoli one week, and then drops it altogether the next.

GOSSIP WATCH

In these kinds of jobs, we find there's only one thing more dreaded and embarrassing than spewing gross misinformation (like the time I wrote that *Vanity Fair's* Tina Brown wears Chanel, when, in fact, she doesn't): not catching a typo and/or spelling error (like the one last week in this column in which new *Esquire* chief Terry McDonell's name was inadvertently transformed to that of a famous closet-case actor named Roddy).

But also disturbing is when the message hurled from here is misinterpreted. And perhaps I should accept blame for that myself: Maybe the turbulent mix of vitriolic gossip and raging CAPITAL LETTERS, interspersed with queenie and nauseatingly cute lingo, tends to underestimate, exaggerate or even blur the true facts as well as distort the meaning of any analysis.

For instance: Last week, ACT UP overwhelmingly voted *against* having the group featured in *Vanity Fair's* annual December "Hall of Fame" issue. This happened, I'm told, at the extremely underattended Labor Day meeting, while much of the membership was at the Wigstock festival. Though I received quite a few calls over the following days from angered ACT UPers who wanted to report their grief about the situation, I was also contacted by some who were present at the vote and were pleased by its outcome and who expected that *I* would be equally delighted. They said that they'd based their decisions on my rantings here about *Vanity Fair*, its editor in chief, Tina Brown, and all of the gay and lesbian editors at that magazine. The opinion of these few people who called me was that the publication and those people who work there are so monstrous that ACT UP should have nothing to do with it or them, and that *Vanity Fair*, as a "glamour" magazine, is "unimportant" and even "inappropriate" for ACT UP to be featured in. And yet, I'd never said anything of the sort—not intentionally, anyway.

The truth be known, ACT UP's actions sadden and disappoint me. I've spent over a year here bashing Tina Brown and her underlings for the lack of queer and AIDS coverage in that magazine. Why? Because *Vanity Fair*, far from being "unimportant," is one of the most influential magazines in this country, read widely by many of our enemies who would certainly feel challenged and would definitely stand up and take notice if ACT UP were saluted in its pages. Also, because *Vanity Fair* is a magazine read by many people who are actually, more or less, our would-be friends—or are even some of *our own people*—and who, because they are hopeless fashion victims, would suddenly realize that what they perceived to be a crazed band of radicals who threw the communion host on the floor couldn't be all bad, since they are being

featured in the pages of their *de rigueur* culture bible. OK, their logic is outlandish, and these people are, for the most part, pea-brains; I won't argue with that at all. BUT WE NEED TO REACH OUT AND POLITICIZE PEA-BRAINS, TOO—IN THEIR PUBLICATIONS!

Many factors, including my incessant prodding in this column, using admittedly ruthless tactics that have come under sharp criticism (especially from people inside *Vanity Fair*, who would literally love to get their hands around my neck), have resulted in: 1) admissions among many of the staff at the magazine that they've been lax with regard to AIDS and gay issues; 2) long, drawn-out meetings at *Vanity Fair* to come up with ways to improve the situation and a commitment to implement changes quickly; 3) lots of healthy—though fierce and heated—discussion at *Vanity Fair* and throughout the "glamour" press regarding these issues.

And the past few months have already seen changes at *Vanity Fair*. In addition to the faces of open gays and lesbians here and there in the mag, some major pieces have suddenly surfaced. The August issue skewered Cardinal O'Connor regarding his AIDS and abortion policies. The September issue exposed Jesse Helms' hypocrisies. For November, the magazine plans to profile the AIDS movement pioneer, British activist Simon Watney. And for December—only, I'm told, after queer staff members at the magazine pushed hard—Tina Brown decided to have ACT UP join Nelson Mandela and others in the annual "Hall of Fame" feature. (There will also, supposedly, be a "Hall of Shame" section this year, filled with monsters).

Now, it must be acknowledged that *all* of the media misrepresent and/or make lesbians and gays invisible. *Vanity Fair* is not any worse than the rest with regard to our issues. If ACT UP were to decide not to cooperate with every homophobic publication, they'd get zero press. And the group has never operated that way. In fact, at the height of protesting *The New York Times* last year for its irresponsible and virtually nonexistent AIDS coverage, ACT UP still allowed the paper to do a huge feature story on the group and invited the *Times* to come to a meeting and shoot photographs. And ACT UP has posed, fawned and yammered for every glamour rag. They've reached millions of people by doing so.

From August 1988 to May 1989, I chaired the ACT UP media committee. We always worked under the premise that our immediate enemy was the government and that our first priority was to get the word out by exploiting the media in exactly the same way that the other side was doing it: by shamelessly utilizing high-powered, savvy tactics. We

ACT UP voted against being in *Vanity* *Fair's* "Hall of Fame."

By Michelangelo Signorile

OUT ON THE TOWN WITH LIZ & SYDNEY

SYDNEY: I like to think of Wigstock as a kind of culture clash between gay, club and cabaret scenes, mixed with a heavy layer of hairspray or, for the more politically minded in our community, Gay Pride with a fashion sense and a funky beat. The outrageous wigs-a-go-go that was the "Sixth Annual Celebration of Love, Peace and Wigs" disproved the statement that nightclubs are only filled with college students, as Tompkins Square Park became a veritable cultural smorgasboard. This was my first Wigstock, and no, it wasn't as magical as it seemed in *Wigstock: The Movie*, a film by Tom Rubnitz, but I'm sure that Woodstock wasn't as perfect in person as it was in the movie, especially with all that rain. Don't let the skeptics tell you otherwise, the Wigstock experience was still incredible, and yes, this time even I was saying, "Love." Being a drag performer in this city ain't easy—for that matter, being any type of transgenderist isn't a bowl of cherries, and one day of drag-queen appreciation is the least we can do. With this in mind, I was able to withstand being stepped on, pushed and pulled. (One ugly man with a press card, who blocked my view, told me that if I didn't have a laminated card, I wasn't press, and then went on yelling about freedom of the press when I asked him to move. Just try yelling at a member of the gay press about First Amendment rights!) All the usual suspects and regulars in this column, plus a few out-of-towners, turned it out for us. Up from Atlanta cable TV, *Teenage Music Fan* DeAundra Peek moved the crowd with an "original" rendition of "Two of Hearts," and the lovely and talented Lurleen Wallace did several numbers with no less than three costume changes. Native New Yorker and Channel 69 hostess Linda Simpson presented a queer-nation fashion show with tastefully appointed gay men, lesbians and drag queens that ended with the unfolding of a "Say It Loud, Gay and



By Liz Tracey & Sydney Pokorny

Proud" banner. Hostess, super-drag queen and poetess, **Lady Bunny**, performed an original composition—the declaration of drag rights—set to a disco beat, of course. Habitual wig wearers, the **House of Field**, headed by newly proclaimed house mama, **Codie Ravioli**, had us all lip-synching with **Miss Guy**, "I'm just a sweet transvestite." An annoying man standing next to me continually repeated, "When is **Deeee-Lite** going on?" and I'm sure he was not alone; it seemed a lot of people came to see the funkadelic trio. When the moment came, I worked my way backstage to watch **Dmitry**, **Towha** and the woman I most

want to be when I grow up, **Lady Kier**. Performing with a set of multiracial, multigendered dancers, the trio called **Deeee-Lite** made the stage look like a mod Benetton ad. In a stroke of scheduling genius, immediately following was "comic" and **Gong Show** leftover, **Barbara Patterson Lloyd**, telling jokes like "I opened my refrigerator and found my salad, dressing" that had the crowd yelling, "How do you say **deee-tired**?" As they say, reading is fundamental. So much for love.

Liz: But then again, the day before a full moon, anything can happen. Manhattan Borough President **Ruth Messinger** came to Wigstock before many in the audience did, giving the **Lady Bunny** a proclamation naming Sept. 3, 1990, "Wigstock Day." Now, while some people may say that a proclamation isn't stopping anti-gay or -lesbian violence, think about this: How many times in this world have openly gay and lesbian performers ever been honored as such, on their own terms and at their concert? Not fucking often.

And yeah, well, there weren't a lot of lesbians in boy drag, but there were a few. ACT UP/Queer Nation/ WHAM's **Emily Smith** accosted me on Avenue A, and while grabbing an appendage I have consequently assured myself was temporary, and implored me to perform oral sex on her—essentially, she told me to suck her dick. I think she meant it nicely.

Sydney: The continuing saga of cable TV censorship: an episode of **SuperDude** (a whimsical night-life show, kind of like **The Midnight Hour** but better, produced by **John Carmen** and **Beauregard Houston-Montgomery**) filmed at



WIG QUEEN—*The Lady Bunny*

See **LIZ AND SYDNEY** on page 55

THE ARTS

Don't Worry, Honey. They're Just Experimenting.

NEW YORK LESBIAN AND GAY EXPERIMENTAL FILM FESTIVAL.
Curated by Sarah Schulman and Jim Hubbard. Anthology Film Archives.
32-34 Second Ave. (212) 477-2714. Sept. 10-16.

by Jewelle Gomez

"Fucking in ignorance is no longer acceptable." This line from *Fear of Disclosure*, by Phil Zwickler and David Wojnarowicz, is a warning rung by feminism more than 20 years ago and has become a fitting coda for modern lesbian and gay life and the art we create. This year's Lesbian and Gay Experimental Film Festival offers a great variety of films embodying this loss of naiveté (whether false or real) and some others which simply exploit it. As with all experimental art that forgoes or de-emphasizes narrative, the director's gaze takes on added weight; one experiences experimental film, feels it, sees it from deep inside who one is. No simple narrative can render the visceral response to the red

DREAMY

Isaac Julien's Looking for Langston





MARLON VOSSI

The Tongues Untied Crew.

shape of a woman's lips or to a youthful male torso, perfect in proportion, chiseled by light, or to the Empire State building hovering over New York City like a menacing hypodermic needle. And, of course, contrary to what Jesse Helms would have us believe, images have meaning beyond their simple shapes.

Fear of Disclosure uses the image of a trivial action—go-go dancing—as a framework for a plaintive narration. The question is loud, unanswered: Who will love you if you are HIV-positive? The male dancer continues his rhythmic moves, seemingly oblivious to the voice of the man who refuses to live unloved. Zwickler and Wojnarowicz have fashioned a tiny, five-minute gem whose most obvious statement is

a poignant plea for the recognition of one's humanity. The less-obvious message delivered by the images and text is a realization that gay male culture is impotent when individuals live only for themselves and are too afraid to accept intimacy as one of life's most precious gifts.

Survival in New York, Rosa von Praunheim's full-length narrative about three German women moving to the city, is a fascinating look at what images can mean when captured in a foreign gaze and how the loss of naiveté is differently shaped. Von Praunheim is a genius at the subtle shaping of observation so that the viewer lives beside these women rather than simply observing their lives unfolding. Each meets the city head-on

with her own middle-class expectations and methods, and von Praunheim's expert eye gazes both dispassionately and admiringly. The daily events—a pigeon squashed on the street, a job taken as an "exotic dancer," the revelation of one woman's lesbianism—are captured in vivid technicolor, as if this were the '60s, not the '90s. Yet the closeness of his camera allows little romanticism, and the women themselves are most unromantic as they shed their innocence and take on the world, or at least the ruins that are this city.

In order to write this in advance of the festival most of the program was aired at a special screening, so not all of the films were shown, and in some cases, substitutions had to be

made for those I'd asked to see. The result is that I saw only three films by women, although there are 20 in the festival. One, *Between*, by Claudia Schillinger, is a surprisingly romantic reverie, almost an erotic daydream, following in the strong visual tradition established by Barbara Hammer. (Hammer will co-facilitate an open forum for audience and artists on Saturday, Sept. 15, at 3 pm.) The other films by women stimulated a number of questions. *Sexual Deferment: If You Meet the Buddha on the Road, Kill Him (Her, It)*, by Andrea Kirsch, bathes us in footage of a mass religious gathering at the Ganges. But here, as in many films by those who are not people of color, those who are people of color become a sensationalist background for introspective meanderings. My question must be: If it's good for you, is it necessarily good for me? Black and Hispanic people are intrinsic to the landscape of von Praunheim's film; here, the Indians' pilgrimage feels exploited.

Isabel Hegner's *Eye to Eye* is a portrait of Jack Walls, lover and model to Robert Mapplethorpe, and an articulate Black man who lived in the shadow of a white artist. The film extends that shadow after death by giving us little about Walls himself except his very cogent reminiscences of Mapplethorpe. These are valuable for those interested in Mapplethorpe and his work but leave us with little about Walls except a casually misogynistic remark about lesbians. The filmmaker clearly wasn't as interested in Walls as a gay Black man who evolved from young innocent to photographic icon, as she was in the famous white artist.

I didn't see *Dreams of Passion*, by Aarin Burch, a film about two Black women who meet at a dance, nor the two films by Chantal Akerman, the mistress of erudition and self-examination, nor Lorna Boschman's *Butch/Femme in Paradise*, which features a sullen butch and a mysterious sex goddess in the wilds of British Columbia. Nor *Get-Up*, by Abina Manning, and *Home Movie*, by Lee Ann Brown, both filmed in Super 8—still the most revolutionary and accessible way to create movies as far as I'm concerned, video notwithstanding. But I will be there to see them when

they're shown at the festival.

I will not be there to (re)see Philip B. Roth's *A 25-Year-Old Gay Man Loses His Virginity to a Woman*. It has a kind of trendy appeal to those flirting with bisexuality but is, finally, as artless as its title: The older woman initiating a boy in the ways of sex; his facile domination of the situation (to his sex partner Annie Sprinkle and the camera-woman, he says, "I feel like I'm fucking both of you"); the exaltation of his sperm (she saves it for his altar) are not new. That the man is gay, that the woman collaborates and that it is filmed without style or grace do not make it experimental. That Sprinkle thrives on self-objectification does not prevent the filmmaker from coming across as an exploitative adolescent living out traditional male fantasies. At least Sebastian's *Tricia's Wedding* (which is just as artless a documentation of the Cockettes doing a White House wedding) has some historic value—and it has Sylvester.

The high energy of this festival will no doubt emanate from three films that have already been shown in New York but still haven't had the audience they deserve: *Paris Is Burning*, by Jenny Livingston, is a documentary at once frenetic and desultory about Black and Latino gay men, drag queens and transsexuals voguing to glory.

Tongues Untied, by Marlon Riggs, was a hit at this year's New Festival and captures the classic pop culture of Black gay men, while giving voice to their yearnings for brotherhood. And Isaac Julien's *Looking for Langston*, after surviving attacks by the Langston Hughes estate, stands as an embodiment of Black vision. Its funereal opening lets high style speak for Black experience; the camera's drift downward to dancers, splendid in tuxedos, evokes romantic innocence. Here, the male gaze is Black, penetrating, sweeping, taking in not just the physical but also "history...the smiler with the knife."

Julien plays with images and colors (black and white) as one hopes an artist will: with both abandon and precision. He uses poetry intrinsic to Black culture (most notably Essex Hemphill's) to focus the search for a poetic hero. And he finds many (including some women) daring to gather, dance, dream and mourn each other even when the wolf is at the door, and naivete is no longer viable. Julien, part of the Sankofa Collective of London, is not seeking to document or narrate the lives of individuals, but to give resonance to the images and ideas that are Black life. It's a film to be seen again and again.

And this festival, now in its third year, promises to keep coming back with new experiments. ▼

The Bessies or Bust

THE SEVENTH ANNUAL NEW YORK DANCE AND PERFORMANCE AWARDS. Brooklyn Academy of Music. 30 Lafayette Ave. Sep. 12 at 7:15 pm.

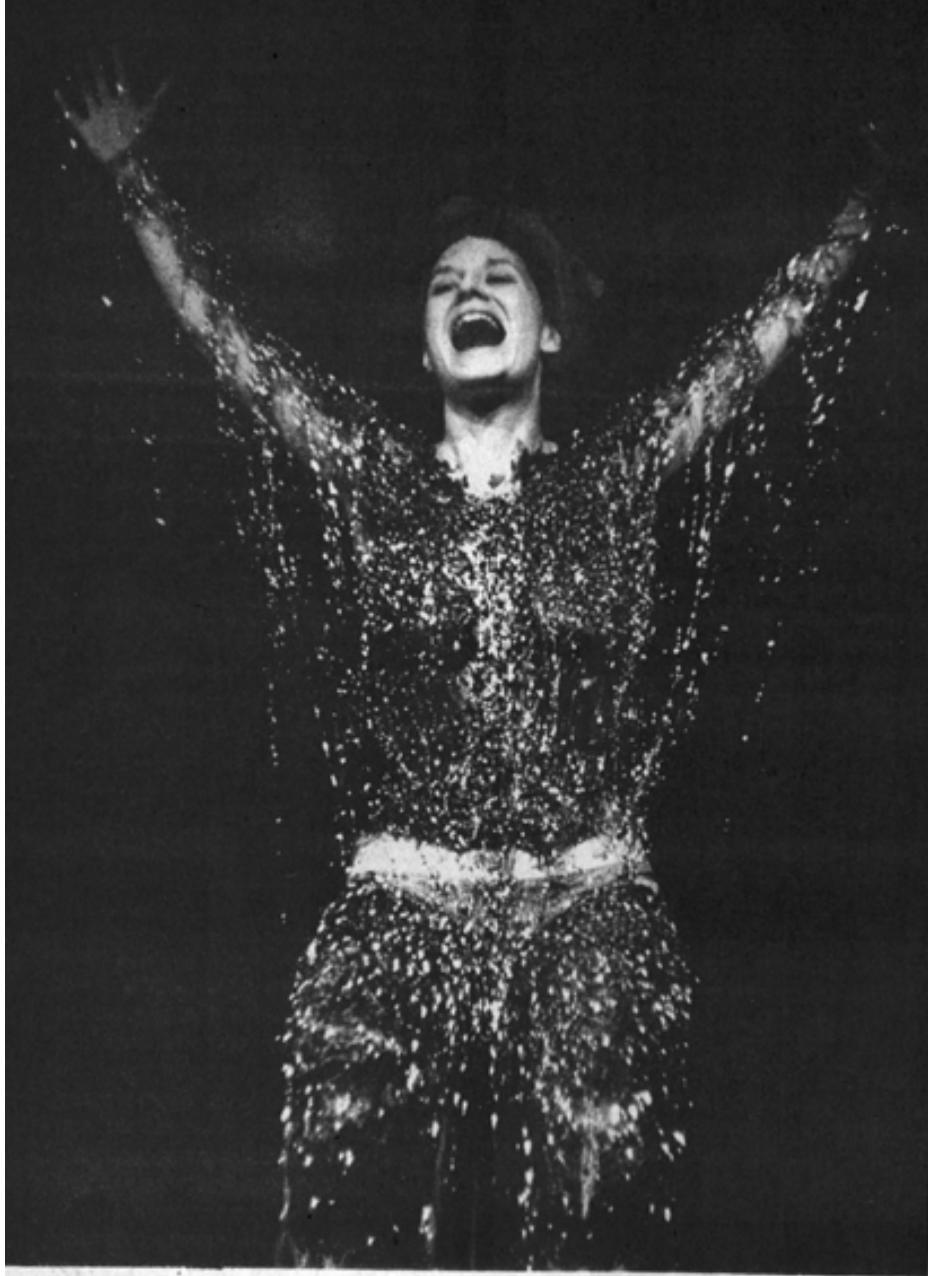
by Otis Stuart

Traditionally, Bessie is the wild card of the awards family. In the seven years since Dance Theater Workshop instituted the New York Dance and Performance Awards, the Bessies, as they were named (after modern dance doyenne Bessie Schonberg), have called their own shots in honoring the best of downtown dance and

performance art. Vote is by committee rather than by the kind of inner circle picking the Tonys or the Oscars cross-community forum. There are no set nominees, resulting in an anyone-might-win ambience that is a key to the event's happiest, rowdiest signature: The spontaneity is for real, making this the liveliest show in town.

This year's Bessies, set for Sept. 12

THEATER



IT'S (NOT) SHOWTIME!—Ex-hostess-with-the-mostest Karen Finley

at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, are running true to form. Two weeks ago, one of the two scheduled hosts, Karen Finley, withdrew in protest over the Philip Morris company's partial sponsorship of the event. Finley was one of four artists recently denied funding by the National Endowment for the Arts as a consequence of Sen. Jesse Helms' infamous obscenity clause. As we went to press, Obie-winning actress and performing artist, Danitra Vance, the other scheduled host, left the show for the same reason. Philip Morris is a

significant contributor to both Helms' current reelection campaign and the

Fags Die

NEMESIS by Rosamond Smith. Dutton. \$18.95 cl. 276 pp.

by James Conrad

It's tricky business, making demands on an author: to hope for a "good" gay to balance out any "bad" gays, to find compassion and instruction when AIDS is mentioned (or even to have AIDS mentioned), to have

Helms Museum under construction in the Tarheel state. The corporation's name on the Bessies invitation brought the paradox home to Finley, and the unlikely alignment of the Bessies with the NEA crisis almost canceled the show. After two days of consultation with Finley, the awards committee and scheduled performers, Dance Theater Workshop Executive Director David White decided to proceed as planned. At least one activist organization has announced plans to protest Philip Morris policies outside the performance. Vance will be among the protestors, and Finley has been asked to join.

White is direct about the contradictions of the situation: "I can understand the despair, the frustration and the real anger and rage these issues generate. There are some really insidious things going on, and, as far as I'm concerned, Jesse Helms is a candidate for capital punishment. But Philip Morris is one of the few corporations that has not moved one iota toward qualifying its support for the arts. At a time when a lot of craven corporate interests have begun to dictate contribution policies, Philip Morris has not attempted to politicize its funding."

The event itself will hardly shy away from the issues. Feminist artist Jemi Allen will host, along with actress Laurie Carlos. The Mellow White Boys will perform and will be joined onstage by, among others, Holly Hughes, another of the NEA four, and the gay activist singing group, the Flirtations. The political cast of the performers, White concludes, "will keep the issues articulated. We are living in a time of relativity. To depend on absolutes in all areas will potentially lessen the forces we can use. At the very least, the situation now allows for a central issue to intensify and for a chance to play the string out." ▼

Photo: Dina Ann McAdams

points is, perhaps, just too bad, and not homophobic. This is just a mystery, gay men do kill gay men, and, let's face it, a novel with gay characters (good or bad) is always welcome by gay and lesbian readers and prominently displayed at A Different Light. But Joyce Carol Oates is too good for that, and sexuality, in fact, is a key device in the scheme of this book.

Maggie Blackburn, director of a prestigious New England music school, is losing the men in her life. As the book opens, she's involved in a relationship but spending her weekends at a nursing home with her dying father. Choosing not to tell friends about her father, speculation begins that she is having an affair and soon the man she is involved with leaves her a note, "teasingly and bullyingly" asking why she left town without telling him. Her angry reaction ends the relationship. "I'm not a woman who is spied upon!" she tells him. "You're hardly a woman at all," he replies.

Maggie's "womanness" is an important issue for her. Aware of being single, she gets lonely watching married friends leave her house together. Her one female friend, hardly present in Maggie's life, continually tries to change Maggie's conservative wardrobe and, when Maggie suddenly cuts her extremely long hair, takes her to the beauty parlor ("This is an emergency!" she declares. Maggie remarks, "But this is me, isn't it?")

Discussing a mystery without giving it away can also be tricky business, but in *Nemesis*, gay visibility depends entirely on the occurrence of the crimes. Two gay men are savagely murdered, and a third disappears. Earlier, one of the doomed gay men sadistically raped a much younger, presumably straight man—a crime he has committed numerous times in the past. An unfounded rumor of a gay sex ring is leveled at the music school and *The New York Times* picks up the story. The murderer writes "Fags Die" in blood, words which eventually give the murderer away when he, in 20 pages, rationalizes the crimes. For the most part, Smith writes fairly and openly about her gay characters' lives. There are no coming-out stories or hang-ups among the older gay male professors (which make up all of the gay characters), allusions are made about the

impact of AIDS on their lives, and their banter comes across as catty without a sinister child-molester undertone.

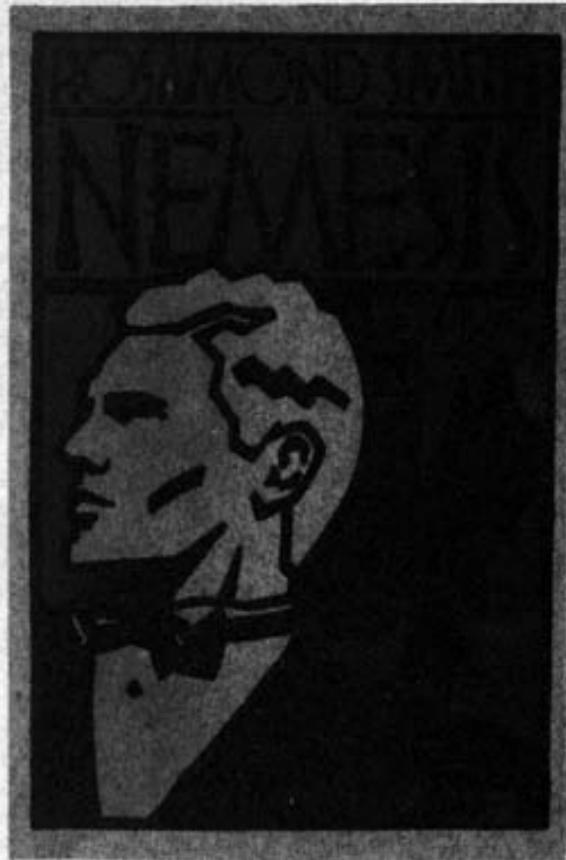
The sexual problems in the novel, with the exception of the rape, seem to dwell more within the heterosexual community. Straight people literally lack sexuality in the book. There are a few married couples so dulled by domesticity that they are rarely given names. One man, Calvin Gould, the dean of the school, becomes Maggie's obsession and the only element of heterosexual motivation among the characters, except for Brendan Bauer (the straight rape victim), whose asexual infatuation with Maggie is clouded by her own sisterly interest in him after the attack.

The sexual battle lines are extreme. Where straight couples attend a cocktail party, museum openings and concerts, the older gay men do all of this and still find time to keep apartments in the city, get their hair cut in SoHo and stay up late with friends getting stoned. But beyond differences in lifestyle, Smith supplies career and romantic histories of the gay men, which straight characters, besides Brendan, Calvin and Maggie herself, lack. Lesbians, apparently, do not teach at, or attend, music schools.

Smith's primary thematic device is to twin her main characters. Maggie and Brendan represent celibate outsiders who champion the cause of punishing Brendan's attacker and, later, the attacker's murderer. Calvin and his mysterious wife, who is rarely seen in public, take on secretive qualities and quite literally look alike. As the mystery unfolds, these "twinnings" are important in understanding characters' motivations and

solving the crimes.

Because Smith handles her gay characters so honestly in their dialogue and interests, and because gay readers are starved for well-written books which include gay characters, the rape and the murders do not blatantly offend until near the end when "Fags Die" appears on the wall written with a gay man's blood. For Smith, the words are only another clue, and there is no speculation on the possibilities of the murders occurring because the men are gay, something you cannot imagine slipping by quite so easily if it involved an ethnic or religious minority. The absence of any reaction to two murdered gay men and "Fags



"Die" written in blood (nicely off-set by the rape at the beginning of the book) leaves a lingering sense that they deserved it.

Perhaps the "gay-that-gets-away" (the disappeared third) is the most telling part of the book regarding carelessness.

BOOKS

ness on Smith's part with her gay characters. He is friends with a lot of the other characters, a murder suspect and a possible next victim. With his disappearance heightening the tension with possibilities that he was either murdered or is the murderer, and though everyone speculated, Maggie "lost her taste for such speculation."

and eventually "his fate had been eclipsed by the more desperate fates of others." This mystery is only challenged by Maggie's ending in a domestic bliss in which the presence or absence of sex is never clarified, and in a world where fags die and disappear, heterosexual invisibility emerges as the novel's real mystery. ▼

ratism, sets up an analytical paradigm I find a little disturbing. The majority of texts she discusses in the first three chapters were written in the 1970s and early 1980s, a time in which much lesbian fiction explicitly or implicitly dealt with the idea of a lesbian utopia. Her enthusiasm for these texts is clear, and though in later chapters she criticizes these fictions for their narrow focus and chronicles alternatives and resistance, especially in terms of race or class, she associates them with a time when visionary white lesbians thought that they could create a lesbian nation (preferably separatist) of their own: a new Lesbos. This nostalgia for the heyday of radical lesbian feminism skews Zimmerman's readings of more contemporary fictions. Few readers could miss the wistfulness in her descriptions of contemporary lesbian texts as "less visionary and mystic...less communal and more individual, even idiosyncratic." It is here that Zimmerman and I differ most, a difference as much generational as political or aesthetic.

Naturally, our divergent political agendas are not reason enough to critique her or valorize my own viewpoint. *The Safe Sea of Women* does, however, privilege the discourse of lesbian separatism and woman-identification at the expense of the less lesbian-specific, broader agenda of the 1980s and of the book itself. A good example of this is her minimal discussion of my favorite dyke tale of the mid-1980s, Sarah Schulman's *Girls, Visions and Everything*, a quintessential urban lesbian text. Zimmerman's claim that "the resurgence of homophobia in the late 1980s...should remind us that the liberal '70s may have been a momentary aberration" glosses over such '70s nightmares as NOW's "Purple Purge," the classism and racism of much lesbian feminist theory, the murder of Harvey Milk, the Brigg's Initiative and Anita Bryant. It also forgets the alliances built between gay men and lesbians, white lesbians and lesbians of color, to name a few, over the past decade.

Moreover, why does Zimmerman skip over the growing genre of lesbian erotic fiction? While she briefly discusses hot potatoes such as Artemis Oakgrove and Pat Califia, Zimmerman doesn't even mention Tee Corinne, whose short stories

The Waves

THE SAFE SEA OF WOMEN: LESBIAN FICTION 1969-1989 by Bonnie Zimmerman. Beacon Press. \$24.00 cl. 272 pp.

by Sarah Chinn

Lesbian fiction occupies an uneasy position in our community, situated somewhere between fierce devotion and half-embarrassed ridicule. While few lesbians' bookshelves do not boast a couple of novels published by Naiad, Seal, Victoria or other lesbian/women's presses, those texts are rarely held in high esteem. It's curious that a culture which takes its musicians so seriously that it creates a plethora of critical/political writing as well as an increasing number of three-to-five-day women's music festivals has not accorded the same value to its writers.

In this almost-comprehensive study of contemporary lesbian fiction, Bonnie Zimmerman begins the cultural work of analyzing the novels and short stories of the lesbian nation from the past 20 years, literature forged in the fires of the women's movement, lesbian liberation and struggles against racism and imperialism. According to Zimmerman, lesbian fiction acts as both weather vane and bellwether for the political and social leanings of the mainstream American dyke community; it creates a mythology of what this community "should" look like, depending upon, of course, who is writing the text. Zimmerman is ambivalent as to the function and benefit of this myth-making: On the one hand, considering the ongoing invisibility of lesbians in popular culture (apart from the few damaging stereotypes—the lesbian vampire, the hyper-butcher aggressor, the corruptor of young girls) and the general misogyny of contemporary culture, any lesbian-generated,

lesbian-positive criticism is precious to us. On the other hand, doesn't lesbian fiction that claims to "create lesbian identity and culture, to say this is what it means to be a lesbian, this is how lesbians are, this is what lesbians believe" run the risk of generating an oppressive homogeneity which will force represent only the most privileged—those who can get published? Zimmerman also worries that lesbian writers unselfconscious of their roles as myth-makers, "rather than reveal the truth about lesbians, fabricate new myths for old without acknowledging that [their] stories are exactly that—stories."

Zimmerman identifies and structures *The Safe Sea of Women* around three of the most common myths of lesbian fiction: the creation of a lesbian self (or coming out), the construction of a lesbian couple and the forging of a lesbian community—and, by extension, the lesbian nation. Her personal experiences with the feminist, lesbian and separatist movements lead her to an explicitly political reading of these myths, and her broad knowledge of the lesbian political scene, particularly during the 1970s, adds immeasurably to her analysis. I should point out that those deconstructive dykes who want strict semiotic and textual criticism will be more than a little disappointed, for this book narrates the events between 1969 and 1989 as much as it analyzes the texts that came out of it.

Zimmerman's involvement in the creation of these lesbian myths, especially through her participation in lesbian sepa-

BOOKS

On the other hand, doesn't lesbian fiction that claims to "create lesbian identity and culture, to say this is what it means to be a lesbian, this is how lesbians are, this is what lesbians believe" run the risk of generating an oppressive homogeneity which will performe represent only the most privileged—those who can get published?

dissolve and disrupt the boundaries between "legitimate" fiction and erotica. While not as controversial as Calafia, Corinne has been instrumental in the fictional creation of another myth: the lesbian sexual self. If nothing else, she should get a merit badge for producing an original vision in the context of an increasingly hackneyed genre: As Zimmerman astutely points out, "Lesbian erotic language, in the space of a decade, has become as familiar [and as predictable] as Homeric or medieval epic language."

Another issue raised but not fully discussed, is that of the lesbian reader as consumer and the role of "quality" in a critical analysis of fiction. Zimmerman accurately points out that lesbian literature has become conservative to the point of rigidity in form, almost always following strict narrative lines within a limited number of genres (coming-out stories, lesbian love stories, lesbian utopias, detective novels), but she inadequately addresses why the lesbian readership simultaneously demands stock romances or coming-out novels, cherishing them as genuine expressions of lesbian voice, and derides them as trash (I'm just as guilty of this as the next dyke). While Zimmerman acknowledges that lesbian critics are leery of harshly criticizing lesbian fiction for fear of being called "unsisterly," she does not interrogate the double standard that allows the lesbian community to attack these scholars for expressing the same derisive opinions many lay dykes dispense. More importantly, she does not actively question the criteria by which we judge these texts in the first place.

Despite these major issues and some minor inconsistencies (Ann Allen Shockley is, for example, described as Black and straight on page 132 and white and lesbian on page 180; Bobbie Crawford of Georgia Cottrell's *Shoulders* is spelled as "Bobby"), *The Safe Sea of Women* is a book worth reading at the very least for the commitment with which it treats lesbian fiction and cultures. Zimmerman is most astute when she is weaving connections between fiction and politics, re-envisioning lesbian fiction as lesbian praxis. At times, those politics can be as limiting as the texts they produced; at others, her vision casts as wide as the best fiction of our lesbian nation. ▼

LIZ AND SYDNEY

Continued from page 48

Grace Jones' birthday party at Stringfellow's, was aired with cuts to eliminate two "offensive" segments—*Nightlife* magazine columnist **Fred Rothbell-Mista** talking about condoms and recommending that you tie a twist 'em around the end "to keep it on" and the birthday girl explaining her idea of a tasteless gift—"a dildo."

Liz: We would like to preface this with the note that we don't know how **James St. James** got into the column two weeks ago. It may have been an editorial addition, or perhaps someone has just been sneaking into the offices and sticking his name in there every two weeks or so. Anyway—Mr. St. James celebrated his twenty-something birthday twentysome-odd days before the event at Disco 2000 last week. A dinner, which had been touted as an outdoor barbecue, became an indoor buffet of two hot trays of pasta for too many people. *Native* columnist **Quentin Crisp** was caught in the feeding frenzy, and guests were reduced to staking out the serving table and then having acquaintances take the plates from them after failing to obtain their own food. There was no birthday cake in sight—perhaps some hungry club kids scarfed it before it even left the box. James received his presents with great pleasure—despite his real birthday being a ways away, merely reflecting the club attitude toward birthday: More is better, and early is best.

Sydney: Having lost its head honcho, **Rudolf**, *Quick!* is showing the strain of the times. With a budget deficit larger than the national debt and owing more money than a Central American country, a recent Friday night at the Panty Girdles party saw the security staff enforcing a newly "selective" door policy. It seems that some of the staff believe that the celebration of underwear as outerwear should be limited to one color—white. Reportedly, 250 regular patrons were carded and turned away, even if they were of age, and even after being admitted by door girl and wig aficionado **Kate Harwood**. Of those denied entrance, most were Black or Latino men—some, friends of the party's promoters. The Panty Girdles promoters had no knowledge of the racist door policy carried out by *Quick!* personnel and were quick to condemn the actions of the club's staff. ▼

knew that, by using the media and being "press whores," we'd have an opportunity to affect public opinion. In doing so, we were actually operating in a much more radical manner than the Left had ever attempted before and were effecting change more than a lot of stagnant '70s lefty groups who were so paranoid and suspicious of "the system" that they wouldn't deal with the media at all and found themselves *never* getting the message out (except when they'd preach to the converted in the leftist press). In essence, we had an urgent fucking crisis to deal with, and we didn't have time to be *sooooo* politically correct.

I've spoken to some members of the ACT UP media committee about exactly what happened, and, again, I come to realize that misinterpretation of this column with regard to *Vanity Fair* may have played a factor. And I'm sorry for that. (Perhaps it's unavoidable, but it's certainly making me rethink the ways I express myself.) The people on the media committee are truly dedicated and hard-working. They were weighing whether or not to have ACT UP in *Vanity Fair*, and some of the concern was in light of all of the criticism of the mag that came from this column. And so, after three weeks of tossing the idea around, they did a most unusual thing: They took the decision to the general membership. And even the general membership seemed to be influenced by this column in a way that I had not intended. I'm told that, in discussion on the floor, this column and the issues it has raised were even brought up. And, overwhelmingly, the group decided against having ACT UP featured in *Vanity Fair*.

Of course, there were many different reasons that the membership responded the way it did, beyond the influence of this column, and I do understand and respect all of them: They come from people I've worked with and admire. Some ACT UPers were concerned about the fact that *Vanity Fair*, at the demand of photographer Annie Leibovitz, would only have eight people of ACT UP's choosing in the photo and that Leibovitz insisted that the photo be taken in her studio and not at a demonstration or even at the ACT UP meeting. There also was going to be

very little text—just a simple blurb, as the "Hall of Fame" is a photographic feature—and the photo would be very staged, using props and so on. Many felt that no eight people could represent the group in such a capacity and had reservations about how to actually go about choosing them. Others felt that the whole project was just too glamourizing of *individuals* and was not dealing with the concrete issues of the AIDS crisis. Some simply thought that ACT UP, after being ignored for so long, shouldn't jump immediately once Tina Brown snapped her fingers and then do it all her way—especially if they weren't comfortable about it.

And one has to agree that there is certainly *something* to that. Whether the decision not to be a part of the "Hall of Fame" is ultimately a good or bad one, the message to Brown is simple: ACT UP's reaction was the inevitable fallout of years of homophobia at your magazine. You cannot expect to be the darling of the queer set now that gays are HOT, HOT, HOT. Why weren't you championing these activists a long time ago, when they were asking for your help, instead of now, when they command media attention EVERYWHERE? It would be naive, egotistical and presumptuous of you to think that they would jump at the chance to be part of a section in your magazine that has, in recent years, been derided as a gallery of power-crazed horror stories. (And to you, Ms. Leibovitz, couldn't you make an exception to your pretentious rules and go and photograph these embattled people on their terms, especially since you'd be doing something for your *own* people? And don't tell me you don't shoot more than eight individuals at a time. I remember that huge group photo a couple of years ago of at least two dozen downtown nightclub idiots—I suppose that was ultimately more important?)

In other words, Tina and company, don't think that this rejection by a wary ACT UP gives you an excuse to go back to your old ways (in fact, perhaps you should commission a full feature story on ACT UP that fleshes out the issues of the AIDS crisis). Let this pass, keep on trying and prove to us all that your intentions are not trendy gestures or part of some public relations scheme but are truly from the heart—if that, indeed, is so. ▼

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EVERY WEEK ON MANHATTAN CABLE CHANNEL J (23)

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Every Saturday 6-7pm on Brooklyn-Queens Cable Channel (56)

Gay U.S.A. 10:30-11:30 pm

September 13

NEWS AND ENTERTAINMENT FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

THURSDAYS

NEW YORK

Election returns

LOS ANGELES

County Board of Supervisors Demo. Orange County Cultural

Pride Parade

WIGSTOCK

Black Leadership Commission on AIDS

Rebecca Lewin & Lesbians on Trial

Denver's Alix Dobkin, Folk Singer

Naming Names Points a Finger!

Men & Films 11:30 pm

SEPT. 16

SUNDAYS

**Reviews of male erotica along
with interviews behind the
scenes with film stars**

**MEET MR.
NORTHEAST
DRUMMER & SEE HIS
FANTASY VIDEO**

Be My Guest 10:00 pm

SEPT. 17

MONDAYS

**Events and entertainment for
and about the Gay and
Lesbian Community**

**THE CAST OF
"HOSANNA" WITH
CLIPS FROM THE
PLAY & WIGSTOCK
NATION HAS ITS DAY**

Gay Cable Network

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GOING OUT

AN EVENTS CALENDAR

Send calendar, TV & club items to:

Rick X, OutWeek Listings
Box 790
New York, NY 10108

Items must be received by
Monday to be included in the fol-
lowing week's issue.

LIVELY ARTS

Also see the daily listings for
showing(s) of one or two days.

A (-) signifies a new listing

PROVINCETOWN'S GIFFORD HOUSE HOTEL presents *Kerry Ashton's The Wilde Spirit*, a one-man play with music based on the life and works of Oscar Wilde; 9-11 Carver Street, Provincetown, MA; \$10; WED-SAT at 7 pm (also on JULY 2 & 3, and SEPT 2; 7 pm); 508/487-6400 (thru SEPT 15)

-4TH NY LESBIAN AND GAY EXPERIMENTAL FILM FESTIVAL, Sept 10-16; with new films by *Rosa von Praunheim*, Barbara Hammer, Cari Michael George, Marguerite Paris, Jerry Turtaglia, Jim Hubbard, Jack Waters, Peter Cramer, Jennifer Montgomery; also films by Andy Warhol, John Waters, Isaac Julian, Chantal Akerman, *The Cocktails*, others; at Anthology Film Archives, 32 2nd Ave (btwn E 2 St); tickets are \$8 per show or \$40 for a pass for the whole week; 885-1499

VORTEX THEATER COMPANY opens David Steinhardt's *The Sacrificial Murders of Maine Virgins For the Sake of Art*, involving "an insane sculptor and a group of young people who search for the murderer of their friend, a Lesbian artist"; with Anna Belley, Tom Barnett, William Crawford, Leah Gena, Terrence Michael Dean Ostrum, Jennifer Parsons, Deb Snyder, Tom Soubrada, Maggie Wagner; at the Sanford Meisner, 184 11th Ave (22/23 Sts); \$10 or TDF+\$5; WED-SAT at 8 pm, SUN at 3 & 8 pm; 206-1784 (AUG 31 thru SEPT 16)

BILL REVICCI, M.D. MINICIELLO & P.A.P.A. present Terry Sweeney as *Nancy Reagan in It's Still My Turn*, directed by Bill Lovejoy; at Actors' Playhouse, 100 7th Ave South (Sheridan Square); \$15; THU-SAT at 10 pm, SUN at 6 pm; tix 564-8038, theater 691-6226 (thru SEPT 16)

-JOYCE THEATRE presents Karen Finley: *We Keep Our Victims Ready*, fresh from her two sold-out performances at Lincoln Center's Serious Fun!; 175 8th Ave (btw 19 St); TUES-SUN (SEPT 18-22 only) at 8 pm; \$25; tix 242-0800

MAZ TROPPE and CUCINA DELLA FONTANA (formerly Trocadero) present *Women's Fun Fest* featuring the comedy of Michele Balan, Trisha Connecker, Maz Troppe, and more; 388 Bleecker (West Village); \$8 + 2-drink minimum; every Saturday in September; 8 & 10 pm; 242-0636 (thru SEPT 29)

WESSEL O'CONNOR GALLERY presents *Queer: Out in Art*; a "group exhibition of work by queer women and men whose art serves to reaffirm the power and significance of their sexual identities," with painting and sculpture; 580 B'way (N/R to Prince St); TUES-SAT, 10 am - 8 pm; 219-9824 (thru SEPT 29)

-MUSICAL THEATRE WORKS presents *Whoopee!*, "the new musical vaudeville featuring 4 actors in almost 20 roles, a fantasy musical combining the worlds of illusion, quick change and spectacle"; 1990 recipient of the Richard Rodgers Production Award; conceived and written by Mark Waldrop and Howard Crabbtree, directed by Mr. Waldrop; music & lyrics by Dick Gallagher; featuring The Holiday Sisters; Mr. Crabbtree, Jennifer Smith and Mark Lazear, with John Tracy Egan; Theatre at Saint Peter's Church, 54 St & Lax. Ave; \$20; TUE-SAT at 8 pm, also SAT & SUN at 3 pm; 885-6022 (thru OCT 6)

BILL REVICCI, M.D. MINICIELLO & P.A.P.A. present Michael Tremblay's *Nosanna*, starring David McCann and David DeBeck as two lovers experiencing a bizarre Halloween night; directed by Charlie Hensley; 100 7th Ave South (Sheridan Sq); \$15; TUE-SAT at 7:30 pm, SUN at 3 & 8 pm; Tix 564-8038, theater 691-6226 (thru OCT 7)

JEWISH MUSEUM presents a Photography Exhibit: *A Day in the Warsaw Ghetto*, disturbing pictures taken by a German soldier, some seen for the first time in America, which speak about one holocaust with eerie parallels to a more recent, and local, one; 5th Ave at 92 St; \$4.50 (seniors/students \$2.50); SUN, 11 am - 6 pm; MON, WED & THU, noon - 5 pm; TUE, noon - 8 pm (free after 5); 860-1888 (thru NOV 1)

THE GLINES presents John Glines' *Men of Manhattan*, directed by Charles Cetane, "a celebration of the delightful diversity of gay life in NYC here and now" with seven actors playing 25 characters in a series of vignettes involving an actor-waiter, phone-sex users, yuppie lawyers, gym hunks, a stripper-hustler, many others; with David Baird, Steven Liebhauser, Cy Orfield, T.L. Reilly, Leslie Roberts, Richard Skipper, Bill Wingard; at the Courtyard Playhouse, 39 Grove St; \$15; WED-FRI at 8 pm, SAT at 6 & 9 pm, SUN at 7 pm; 869-3530 (extended thru late NOVEMBER)

CHARLES LUDLAM THEATRE presents *Ludlam's Camille*, starring and directed by Everett Quinton, with Cheryl Reeves, Ken Scallion, Georg Osterman, Eureka, Bob Reed, Jim Lamb, Carl Claybourne, H.M. Kououkas, Jean-Claude Vasseux, Steven Peli, 1 Sheridan Square; \$25; TUE-FRI at 8 pm, SAT & SUN at 7 pm; 691-2221

RAPP THEATRE COMPANY revives Thomas M. Disch's *The Cardinal Detoxes*, "a chilling look inside the hierarchy of the modern Catholic Church exploring such issues as AIDS, abortion, ties to organized crime and homosexuality"; directed by R. Jeffrey Cohen, starring George McGrath as the Cardinal; 220 E 4 St; \$8; FRI & SAT at 11:30 pm (RT=40 min.); 529-8100

VILLAGE PRODUCTIONS revives *O Sappho, O Wilde!*, a comedy revue of the gay '90s; with music by Raven Hall, directed by Bill Cosgriff, musical direction by Joe Maisano; featuring Lisa Goodman, Raven Hall, John Kudan, JoAnna Rush and Joe Spencer White, with sketches by Claire Olivia Meed, Karen Mallen, Carol Polcovar, Marc Castle and Al Luongo; at Rose's Turn, 55 Grove St; \$10 cover + 2-drink minimum; every Saturday at 8 pm; 366-5438

Fan Down There, about a young man who comes to Manhattan and has a positive, trouble-free gay experience; Bleecker Street Cinema #2, Bleecker St at LaGuardia Place; 674-2560

MONDAY, SEPT. 10

NYC FEDERATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH, MENTAL RETARDATION, AND ALCOHOLISM SERVICES Citywide Gay & Lesbian Concerns Committee Monthly Meeting with Dr. Marjorie Hilli,

prepared by Rick X

For additional information, call

The Gay & Lesbian
Switchboard of New York
daily, noon to midnight,
212-777-1800

Director of the Mayor's Office for the LGB Community; 93 Worth St, Rm 1212; 9:30-11:30 am; Dr. Billy E. Jones, Mental Health Commissioner, 566-1887 (Editor's note: generally meets 1st Monday)

ANTHROPOLOGY FILM ARCHIVES houses the 4th New York Lesbian and Gay Experimental Film Festival, at 32 2nd Ave (btwn E 2 St); 885-1499 (SEPT 10 thru SEPT 16) (see LIVELY ARTS and individual days for more info)

FOURTH NY LESBIAN & GAY EXPERIMENTAL FILM FESTIVAL presents Shirley Clarke's *Portrait of Jason*, about an out Black gay man, 100 min., at 7 pm; *Rosa von Praunheim's Survival in New York*, a premiere, 90 min., at 9 pm; see LIVELY ARTS for info

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS SYNAGOGUE Forum for Persons and Families Affected by HIV/AIDS; to "elicit views on what kind of support our congregation can provide to persons who are affected by HIV/AIDS and their loved ones"; 117 Remsen St (btwn Clinton/Henry Sts); 8 pm; 718/522-2070

DYKES & LEZZIES LESBIAN FEMINIST THEATRE & SCHOOL Fall Session Registration, for classes that run on Monday nights from SEPT 17-DEC 10, playwriting, directing and acting taught by Diane Hamilton; at the Center, 208 W 13 St, Alexander Room; 8-10 pm; Info 807-8017 (WC accessible)

GAY ACTIVIST ALLIANCE IN MORRIS COUNTY, NJ Weekly Meeting & Social with Dr. Rob Rosenbaum talking about coming out at the workplace; at Morristown Unitarian Fellowship, 21 Normandy Heights Rd, Morristown NJ; 8:30 pm; 201/285-1595

TUESDAY, SEPT. 11

Primary Day
(NYC's only real Election Day)

LESBIAN/GAY EXIT POLL Volunteers Needed to find out how our (non-closed) community voted; Eddie Baca 348-0662

ACT UP/CENTRAL JERSEY Regular Weekly Meeting, at the YMCA, New & Livingston Sts, New Brunswick, NJ; 201/249-8428 (ACT UP/Central Jersey, 67 Welton St, New Brunswick, NJ 08901)
VILLAGE NURSING HOME Day Treatment

Program, 133 W 20 St, ground floor, 6-8 pm

FOURTH NY LESBIAN & GAY EXPERIMENTAL FILM FESTIVAL presents *Timothy Bellinger's Wayne's Alka Seltzer Movie Part II*, *Tom Dailey's Walt the Dog*, *Jerry Tartaglia's Remembrance*, *James Carman's Saw Your Eye*, *Jim Hubbard's Valentine for Nelson*, *Richard Kwietiowski's Flames of Passion*, *Michael Brynstrup's Nazis und Echo*, *Phillip B. Roth's A 25-Year-Old Gay Loses His Virginity to a Woman* (Annie Sprinkle) at 7 pm; and *Ulrike Ottinger's Joan of Arc in Mongolia*, 180 min., at 9 pm; see LIVELY ARTS for info

MOSAIC BOOKS Fall Reading Series: Open Readings of prose, poetry, drama, "you name it—for one and all"; 167 Ave B at 10 St; 7 pm; 475-8623

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS HIV Health Seminar: Insurance Information, tonight and every 2nd Tuesday; 129 W 20 St, 3rd Floor; 7 pm; free; 807-6655 (TDD 645-7470)

NYC GAY MEN'S CHORUS Auditions for tenor, baritone and bass sections; a prepared song, sight-reading and voice placement exercises are required; 7-10 pm today and tomorrow; schedule appointments at 691-7590

SLOPE ACTIVITIES FOR LESBIANS Creative Writing Night, in Park Slope, Bklyn; 7:30 pm; SAL Info/rsvp 718/965-7578

A DIFFERENT LIGHT BOOKSTORE presents Fall 1990 Reading Series: *Rene Hansen, Take Me to the Underground* 548 Hudson St (btwn Charles/Perry Sts); 8 pm; free (but limited seating, arrive early); 989-4850 (Editor's note: Hatha Yoga classes are offered Saturdays.)

LESBIANS AND GAY MEN OF NEW BRUNSWICK History of the Rainbow Flag/Ice Cream Social at Friends Meeting House, 109 Nichol Ave, New Brunswick, NJ; 8 pm; 201/247-0515 (LGMNB meets alternate Tuesdays.)

THE ANSWER IS LOVING Women in Discovery Counseling Group for Married Women, focusing on issues with children, family, friends, career, sexuality; first session (of an on-going group) is tonight; 1984 E 35 St, Bklyn; 8-10 pm; \$15; 718/988-2305

STANLEY H. BERKE and MARSHALL SIMON'S ROCK & ROLL DRAGBAR present The 5th Annual Birthday Bash for Chaka Savalas, with MC George Sardi, performances by John La Fleur, and Johny Nicholson (live voice); at Private Eyes, 12 W 21 St; show at midnight, open 10 pm-4 am; \$7 general admission; 206-7774

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 12

ASIANS AND FRIENDS/NY Members Meet Members at Dusit Thai Restau-

rant; 256 Bleecker St (827-8310); 6 pm (cocktails from 6-7:30; optional dinner, \$20, includes tax and tip); AFNY Info/rsvp 674-8064

PINK PANTHERS Meeting at the Center, 208 W 13 St, 6-9:30 pm, 315-8469 (Editor's note: This is the new gay and lesbian safety patrol in the West Village. Also meets next Wednesday, SEPT 19)

WOMEN ABOUT Collective Meeting; 7 pm; info/rsvp 677-6595

FOURTH NY LESBIAN & GAY EXPERIMENTAL FILM FESTIVAL presents *Andy Warhol's Blow-Job*, *Andrea Kirsch's Sexual Deferment: If You Meet the Buddha on the Road, Kill Him (Her, It)*, and *Stephen Commins' Elevations* at 7 pm; and *John Waters' Multiple Maniacs* (1970), with Divine, Mink Stole and Cookie Mueller, 90 min., at 9 pm; see LIVELY ARTS for info

NYC GAY MEN'S CHORUS Auditions for tenor, baritone and bass sections; a prepared song, sight-reading and voice placement exercises are required; 7-10 pm; schedule appointments at 691-7590

INTEGRAL YOGA INSTITUTE Positive Approaches Toward Healing Seminar: *Imagery and Healing*, for those whose lives have been affected by HIV or life-threatening illness in themselves or a loved one; 227 W 13 St; 7:30-9 pm; \$5; 929-0588 (Editor's note: Hatha Yoga classes are offered Saturdays.)

BI-WAYS NEW YORK Cocktail Time: *Hello Bi'l*, at Kelly's Village West, 48 Bedford St; 7:45-9:45 pm; club 829-9322

A DIFFERENT LIGHT BOOKSTORE presents Fall 1990 Reading Series: *Peter Gadol, Coyote*; 548 Hudson St (btwn Charles/Perry Sts); 8 pm; free (but limited seating, arrive early); 989-4850

PUBLISHING TRIANGLE Monthly Meeting, for gays and lesbians in the publishing industry who want to further the growth and dissemination of lesbian/gay literature; establish a gay/lesbian library at the Center; form a writers' caucus for lesbian and gay writers of color; fight homophobia and censorship; info from Michele, 986-8400 (Meets every second Wednesday: OCT 10, NOV 14, DEC 12.)

SLOPE ACTIVITIES FOR LESBIANS Pizza & Pool Night, dining at Antonio's, 318 Flatbush Ave, 7:30 pm; followed by pool at Brownstone Billiards, 7th/Flatbush Aves, 8 pm-ish; followed by drinks at the Landmark Pub, 187 7th Ave (2nd St), 10 pm-ish; Brooklyn; SAL Info/rsvp 718/965-7578

DIXON PLACE presents The Reading Series with Dorothy Randall Gray and

Assetto Seist (winner of the 1990 James Baldwin award), reading from their latest poetic works; 37 East 1st St (btwn 1st/2nd Aves); 8 pm; \$4.95; no rsvp, come a half hour early; 673-6752

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS Men Meeting Men Workshop, a two and a half hour interactive workshop to enhance self-confidence and increase ability to negotiate safer sex with potential partners; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8 pm; free; no rsvp necessary; info 807-6655 (TDD 645-7470)

FOURTH NY LESBIAN & GAY EXPERIMENTAL FILM FESTIVAL presents *Lawrence Brose's Everest*, *Virgil, Marguerite Paris' 1970 Gay Pride March*, *Yana Beauvais' A Kind of Pink*, *Mark Sommerville's Singing Seas*, *Matthias Mueller's Aus Der Ferne - The Memo Book*, *Tom Chomont's Letter* at 7 pm; and *Tania Cypriano's Viva Eul*, *David Lambie's Mike's Film*, *David Wojnarowicz (Iwahn-your-OH-vitch)* & *Phil Zwickler's Fear of Disclosure*, *Jerry Tartaglia's Final Solutions*, and *Robert Hiltl's Stop the Church* at 9 pm; see LIVELY ARTS for info

EAGLE BAR Movie Night: *Men Don't Leave*, with Jessica Lange; 142 11th Ave (at 21 St); 11 pm; 691-8451

PYRAMID presents Linda Simpson's Channel 69: *Gay MTV*, homosexual interpretations of your favorite songs, back by popular demand; 101 Avenue A (btwn 6/7 Sts); 1 am; \$5; 420-1590

THURSDAY, SEPT. 13

ACT UP/CENTRAL JERSEY Plans an Action Today; 201/249-8428

INT'L GAY & LESBIAN OUTDOORS ORGANIZATION Jamboree '90, Sept 13-16; at a 268-acre campground in eastern PA near Philadelphia, with lake, woods, lawns, sports fields and courts, rec halls, Olympic-size pool; dorm-style accommodations; \$135 for four days; 215/969-8948

SUHIR Body Temple Adornments, ear, nose piercings "with a quick, gentle, spiritual touch"; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 1-4 pm; 718/783-4574

BRONX AIDS COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT Task Force Meeting, serving as an opportunity "for information exchange and networking between Bronx based programs, residents and the CSP"; at BACSP, 1 Fordham Plaza, Suite 800; 530-8 pm; Sandra or Richard, 212/295-5605

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER Hot, Horny and Healthy Playshop at Two Potato, Christopher/Greenwich Sts, 6-9 pm, info 566-4995

NATIONAL LESBIAN CONFERENCE Metro Area Information Meeting, tonight and every second Thursday, to build the April 24-28, 1991 Conference in Atlanta; all lesbians invited; in the Center's SAGE Room, 208 W 13 St; 6-8 pm (info: 212/491-5965; SASE to NLC, Box 1998, Decatur, GA 30031)

NYC GAY AND LESBIAN ANTI-VIOLENCE PROJECT new Crisis Hotline volunteers needed! Information Meeting tonight, at the Center, 208 W 13 St, West Wing 2; 6-8 pm; info from Robert Vazquez, 807-0197

JUDITH'S ROOM BOOKSTORE presents *Julia Penelope, Speaking Freely: Unlearning the Lies of the Fathers' Tongues*; 681 Washington St (at Charles); 7 pm; free & WC accessible, but seating is limited; 727-7330

FOURTH NY LESBIAN & GAY EXPERIMENTAL FILM FESTIVAL presents *Lawrence Brose's Everest*, *Virgil, Marguerite Paris' 1970 Gay Pride March*, *Yana Beauvais' A Kind of Pink*, *Mark Sommerville's Singing Seas*, *Matthias Mueller's Aus Der Ferne - The Memo Book*, *Tom Chomont's Letter* at 7 pm; and *Tania Cypriano's Viva Eul*, *David Lambie's Mike's Film*, *David Wojnarowicz (Iwahn-your-OH-vitch)* & *Phil Zwickler's Fear of Disclosure*, *Jerry Tartaglia's Final Solutions*, and *Robert Hiltl's Stop the Church* at 9 pm; see LIVELY ARTS for info

SLOPE ACTIVITIES FOR LESBIANS Dining at Taxco, Tex Mex cuisine, 412 9th Ave (btwn 7/8 Sts), Bklyn; 8 pm Live Music Night at Ghosts, to hear jazz performers, 5th Ave & 3rd St, Bklyn; 10:30 pm SAL Info/rsvp 718/965-7578

twentysomething? New Social Group for Lesbians and Gay men in 20s and Early 30s, to meet new friends in a relaxed atmosphere; fall schedule will be distributed; refreshments; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8 pm; donation; 718/639-2345

BRIAN BUTTERICK, DUGWAH, JEANETTE ANONYMOUS & VICTOR ANONYMOUS open *Disco Interruptus* at Roxy; Thursday parties with DJs Sister Dimension and Patrick Butts; performance interruptions by Dance Noise, John Kelly, Peony Arcade, The Ladies' Auxiliary of Avenue A; with hostesses Re Paul and LaBona Van Zandt; dancing and interacting by Mr. Fashion, Tennessee, Alisha, Taboo, Madame, Wendy Wild; serving by Olympia; decor by Obie and Bessie award-winner Heck Snyder; 515 W 18 St; 10:30 pm; \$10 general/\$5 with invite; 645-5156

FRIDAY, SEPT. 14

FULL MOON NY/NJ Earth Camp '90, SEPT 14-16; three days of camping, workshops, music, nature and meeting new friends; primitive accommodations; crafts, workshops, supervised kids welcome; 201/939-7061

PRIDE INSTITUTE Sobriety Renewal Weekend, SEPT 14-16, for lesbians, gay men, bi-sexuals in recovery from chemical dependence; at Marist Retreat Center, Framingham, MA; arrive by 5:30 pm tonight, depart by 4 pm Sunday; \$195; 800/547-7433

DARTMOUTH GALA Ivy League/Seven Sisters Forum: *Out in Public (Service)*, with a panel of three openly gay politicians: Tom Deane (1989 City Council candidate), Deborah Glick (61st AD NYS Assembly candidate), and Sean Strub (Rockland County Congressional candidate); with cocktails and hearty buffet; at the Yale Club, Main Dining Room, 20th Floor, 50 Vanderbilt Ave at 44 St (overlooking Grand Central Station); business attire required, 5:30-8:30; \$30 advance/\$40 door/\$69 for program listing; info 718/788-4558 (checks to Dartmouth GALA, Box 7745, NYC 10150-1914) (proceeds will benefit NetGALA, the national non-profit association of all gay and lesbian alumnae/ee organizations)

FOURTH NY LESBIAN & GAY EXPERIMENTAL FILM FESTIVAL presents Jennifer Montgomery's *Age 12: Love With a Little L, Jack Waters' The Male Gayze*, Jeff Cole's *The Truth Game*, Isabel Högner's *Eye to Eye* at 7 pm; and Barbara Hammer's *Lesbian Hands*, Michelle Mobeer's *Exposure*, Lorna Boschman's *Butch/Femme in Paradise*, Marlon Riggs' *Tongues Untied* at 9 pm; see LIVELY ARTS for info

SLOPE ACTIVITIES FOR LESBIANS Video Night: *Judy Foster Fest*, at the Clubhouse; phone-in your favorites & bring stories and bio info on JF; 7 pm; SAL info/rsvp 718/965-7578

THE ANSWER IS LOVING Women Talking Women's Talk: *Second Opinions*, "making a decision, the possibility of making a mistake...the consequences, the rewards"; 1964 E 35 St, Bklyn; 7:45-10 pm; \$10; Ruth Berman & Connie Kurtz, 718/998-2305

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER Educational Forum: *Multicultural Images in Music Videos*, with the viewing of current videos and discussion of the vision and message they provide; open to all; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 7:45 pm; 222-9794

A DIFFERENT LIGHT BOOKSTORE presents a Book Signing: Tom Weinberg, *Ten Percent Review*; 548 Hudson St (btwn Charles/Perry Sts); 5-6 pm; free; 989-4850

SATURDAY, SEPT. 15

6th Annual West Side Arts, Crafts & Antiques Fair, West End Ave, 88-96 Sts, 764-6330

WKCR-FM Record Fair, at which the Columbia U. station makes room for new platters by unloading the old at bargain prices; Wollman Aud., Columbia U., 115 & B'way; dealers (in records) call 854-5223

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER/NY *Nude Beach Outing to Sandy Hook*, NJ, meeting at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8:30 am; 222-9794 (Drivers: NJ Tpk South, Exit 11/Garden State Pkwy South to Exit 117/Route 36; Parking Lot G)

SLOPE ACTIVITIES FOR LESBIANS and **WOMEN ABOUT** White Water Rafting in Pennsylvania, about \$50; SAL info/rsvp 718/965-7578 (rsvp was due by AUG 31, check for late availability)

WOMEN ABOUT Bike Trip to Staten Island's Richmondtown Restoration; cars needed; info/rsvp 201/481-0440

SLOPE ACTIVITIES FOR LESBIANS East Village Visit

Brunch at Riviera Cafe, across from the Astor Place cube; 11 am

Walking, Window-Shopping, Gallery-Hopping, Hair Cutting; meet at the Astor Place cube; 12:30 pm

Dinner, Drinks and Billiards, an Indian Restaurant followed by a "secret" bar; 5:30 pm

Madonna Party, to view the HBO special *Blonde Ambition Tour*, share Madonna stories and clippings, listen to her tapes (Madonna hasn't rsvp'd yet); 8 pm

SAL info/rsvp 718/965-7578

PARENTS OF COLOR AND OUR FAMILIES Panel/Discussion: Coming Out to Our Children and social hour; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; discussion from 11:30 am to 1 pm; socializing from 1-2 pm; info 718/533-3496

FOURTH NY LESBIAN & GAY EXPERIMENTAL FILM FESTIVAL presents a Community-Wide Open Discussion: *What's on your mind?*, where Barbara Hammer and Jerry Tartaglia facilitate with "no panels, no experts. What are the issues? Fundraising? Representation? Distribution? Why? Gender Tokenism? Who decides? Racism? Censorship? Media arts bureaucracies?"; artists and audiences welcome; at Anthology Film Archives, 2nd Ave at 2 St; 3 pm; info 665-1499

FOURTH NY LESBIAN & GAY EXPERIMENTAL FILM FESTIVAL presents Andy Warhol's *My Hustler* (1967, with Paul America) and Sebastian's *Tricia's Wedding* (1971, with the Cocktails) at 7 pm; and Christine Vachon's *Way of the Wicked*, Lee Ann Brown's *Home Movie*, Penny McDonald's *Life on Earth As I Know It*, Abina Manning's *Hot-Up*, Jolie Butler's *I Got This Way From Kissin' Girls*, Marcelle Thirache's

Lille D'Emoin, Leslie Kossoff's *Sublime*, Aarin Burch's *Dreams of Passion*, Claudia Schillinger's *Between*, Chantal Akerman's *Saute Ma Vieille* and Sloth at 9 pm; see LIVELY ARTS for info

WOMEN'S THEATRE/DINNER/ETC1 Movie and Dinner Night in Manhattan, for non-smoking lesbians, preferably over 35; 7 pm-ish; 718/934-8772 for info

HUDSON RIVER SLOOP CLEARWATER presents The Washington Sisters with Melanie Monsur, a benefit for the environmental advocacy group; featuring music that "encompasses gospel, a capella funk, jazz-bop, blues and island rock" by Sarong and Sandra (*Breath, How Do You Feel, Find the Spirit*) and Melanie; at Riverside Church, Assembly Hall, 120 St & Riverside Drive (#1/F to B'way/116); 7:30 pm; \$10 advance (Oscar Wilde, Judith's Room, The Breadshop at 123 St & B'way)/\$12 door (half price for seniors, kids, disabled, limited income); info 914/454-7673 (Editor's note: The Washington Sisters, who are proud feminists and lesbians, are also advocates for the environment and against apartheid. Their first album, *Understated*, was produced by Olivia Records artist Tereza Trull, on the Iceberg label.)

ASIANS AND FRIENDS/NY 3rd Saturday Social: International Food Festival, a gastronomical evening with a variety of American, European, Asian and Latin American dishes; at the Center, 208 W 13 St, 3rd Floor; 8 pm; 674-5064 (Editor's note: Contributing cooks are reimbursed for expenses and admitted free to the fest!)

DIXON PLACE presents Frank Maya (continuing his autobiography, despite his family's demands) and David Cole, reading from new works; 37 East 1st St (btwn 1st/2nd Aves); 8 pm; \$8 or TDF; no rsvp, doors open 7:30 pm; 673-6752

LaMAMA LaGALLERIA presents Mark Auneen reading from his recently published trilogy, *The Buried Body*, "something Francis Bacon might mumble under anaesthesia" by the "sexy, angry, and even a little cruel" gay poet; 6 East 1st St (btwn Bowery/2nd Ave); 8 pm; donation

GIRTH AND MIRTH Annual Western Nite Social; beer, wine, soda, munchies, live DJ; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 8:30 pm; \$8 members/\$10 guests (G&M, Box 10, Pelham, NY 10803-0010)

DIGNITY/SUFFOLK Dinner Theater Party: *A Chorus Line*, at Pine Grove Inn, Patchogue, LI; 9 pm; \$25; 516/462-0159

CONGREGATION BETH SIMCHAT TORAH *Slichot* Services, 57 Bethune St (Westbeth Complex, near West St, up courtyard ramp); 10 pm; 929-9498

SUNDAY, SEPT. 16

GAY MEN'S HEALTH CRISIS, HISPANIC AIDS FORUM, LOISAIDA INC, LOWER EAST SIDE FAMILY UNION, NYC DEPT. OF HEALTH present *Love in the Time of AIDS*, a family educational and recreational event; with music, theater, prizes, and AIDS education; in the East River Park (bring picnics and spend the day), East River and 10 St; 11 am - 4 pm; 807-6655 (TDD 845-7470)

SLOPE ACTIVITIES FOR LESBIANS Prospect Park Hike, Brooklyn, a long walk with historical "tidbits"; 11 am Brunch at Who's On First, popular with vegetarians and meat-eaters, 183 7th Ave at 1st St, Park Slope; 12:30 pm *Do The Right Thing* Cultural Festival; entertainment, food, arts & crafts, sponsored by Brooklyn Residents Against Bias-Related Violence; 9th St Bandsell, Park Slope; noon - 7 pm *Field Trip to Times Squares Dyke Barn Dance*, at the Center (below); free; 5:30-8 pm SAL info/rsvp 718/965-7578

ALLIANCE OF WOMEN AGAINST RACISM EVERYWHERE Anti-Racism Workshop, at the Center, 208 W 13 St, 11:30 am - 5 pm, \$6 more if/less if, Luvenia 427-4175

GAYMEN AND LESBIANS IN BROOKHAVEN Men's Group Meeting & Social, at a member's home on LI; 516/751-2901

BISEXUAL PRIDE Discussion Group: *Emotionally Bi and Physically Bi*, at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 3-4:30 pm; 459-4784

JUDITH'S ROOM BOOKSTORE presents Karla Jay & Joanne Glasgow, eds., *Lesbian Texts & Contexts: Radical Revisions*; 681 Washington St (st Charles); 3 pm; free & WC accessible, but seating is limited; 727-7330

CENTER MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE presents The First Annual Tea Dance to benefit the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, hosted by Michael Fesco, with tonight's DJ Michael Jorda; Free Bloody Marys and Mimosas from 5-7 pm, free buffet at 7:30 pm; at 20/20, 20 W 20 St opens 5 pm; \$10; 620-7310 (Editor's note: Buy tix at the Center, M-F, 10 am - 10 pm; only tix bought in advance benefit the Center.)

TIMES SQUARES Women's Barn Dance with "dancing, cowgirls and refreshments" to learn about the Times Squares and enjoy Western Square Dancing; at the Center, 208 W 13 St; 5:30-8 pm; free; info from Byrna 740-9166, Kath 242-2400 x1002 (Editor's note: Times Squares is NYC's only

gay/lesbian square dance club and performs at many other groups' functions.)

FOURTH NY LESBIAN & GAY EXPERIMENTAL FILM FESTIVAL presents *Alla Nazimova's Salome* (1922 censored silent film) and *Isaac Julien's Looking for Langston* at 7 pm; and *Peter Cramer's Black and White Study* (male nudes) and *Jenny Livingston's Paris Is Burning* (voguing and house balls) at 9 pm; see LIVELY ARTS for info

CARLA STIMER, DAVID JAMES ROBINSON, DAVID LEIGH, LEE CHAPPELL present *Summersea XC: A Sunset Cruise*, Circle Line around Manhattan with DJ and live floor show; Pier 83, 42 St and the Hudson River (12th Ave); boarding 7-8 pm, departure 8 pm sharp; \$15 (includes free pass to Roxy's Sunday party afterward); tix 923-1191, 489-0935

MONDAY, SEPT. 17

NEW JERSEY WOMEN & AIDS NETWORK Symposium: *Confronting the Crisis II: The Power of Our Voices*, the second annual symposium for health care professionals, experts in women's issues, and women with HIV/AIDS; 9 am - 5 pm; 201/846-4462 (Thanks go to GMHC for this listing.)

BRONX AIDS COMMUNITY SERVICES PROJECT Bronx AIDS Task Force Meeting, with a workshop on alternative therapies in HIV infection, One Fordham Plaza, Suite 800; 6-7:30 pm; 212/295-5605

DYKES & LEZZIES LESBIAN FEMINIST THEATRE & SCHOOL begins Fall Classes that run on Monday nights from SEPT 17 - DEC 10, playwriting, directing and acting taught by Diana Hamilton; at the Center, 208 W 13 St, Alexander Room; 8-10 pm; info 807-8017 (WC accessible; registration was last Monday, check for availability)

GAY ACTIVIST ALLIANCE IN MORRIS COUNTY, NJ Weekly Meeting & Social with The Annual \$1.98 Beauty Contest; at Morristown Unitarian Fellowship, 21 Normandy Heights Rd, Morristown NJ; 8:30 pm; 201/285-1595

TUESDAY, SEPT. 18

**more
listings
next
week**

Tuning In: A TV/Radio Guide for OutWeek Readers

Information must be received by Monday to be included in the following week's issue. Send items to Rick X, Tuning In, Box 790, NY, NY 10108.

A&E (Arts & Ent, 555 Fifth Ave, 10th Fl, NYC 10017; 661-4500)
CCTV (Rick X, Box 790, NYC 10108)
GBS (Gay Broadcasting System, Butch Peaston, 178 7th Ave, Ste. A-3, NYC 10011; 243-1570)
GCN (Gay Cable Network, Lou Malotta, 32 Union Square East, Suite 1217; 477-4220)
GMHC (Gay Men's Health Crisis, Jean Carlomusto, 129 W 20 St, NYC 10011; 807-7517)
RB PROD (Robin Byrd Prods., Box 305, NYC 10021; 988-2973)
WABC-TV (77 W 63 St, NYC 10023; 456-7777)
WBAI-FM (505 8th Ave, 19th Fl, NYC 10018; 229-0707)
WCBS-TV (51 W 52 St St, NYC 10019; 975-4321)
WNBC-TV (30 Rockefeller Plaza, NYC 10112; 654-4444)
WNET-TV (358 W 58 St, NYC 10019; 560-3000)
WNYW-TV (Fox, 1211 AV/AM, NYC 10036; 556-2400)

Editor's Notes

Apologies are offered to WNET-TV, whose September 9 broadcast of *Gus Van Sant's Maia Noche* was cut due to a formatting error. Also deleted was GCN's *Men in Films*.

~ Refers to those shows which may be affected by the new cable TV franchise agreement eliminating Channel J/23 (which is one channel, not two, as misstated by the *Times and Voice*). Some shows may return to Manhattan Cable (but not Paragon) channels M/26 and V/35.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

8:30 PM *The Brenda and Glenna Show*; performance artist Kemba Pfahler of the band Karen Black; *The Drag Queen Starter Kit*; Manhattan Cable, CH D/17 (30)
9:00 PM GBS *Out in the 90's*; community news, discussion, interviews; (tape of last Tuesday's MCTV/Paragon show) BQ Cable, CH 56 (1:00)
9:00 PM WNET-TV *Firing Line*: Resolved: Government Is Not the Solution; It Is the Problem. Pro: Newt Gingrich, Jeane Kirkpatrick, Charlton Heston, William F. Buckley; Con: George McGovern, Gary Hart, Pat Schroeder, Dennis Weaver; CH 13 (2:00)
~ 10:00 PM GCN *Be My Guest*: Michael Tremblay's *Hosanna, Phoebe Legers* at Duplex; Manhattan Cable, CH J/23 (30)
11:30 PM *Tomorrow/Tonight Live!*; entertainment; Manhattan and Paragon Cable, CH D/17 (1:00)
midnight CCTV *The Closet Case Show*; underwear ads of the year, a *Save Robin Byrd* segment, *Jake & Bruce*; Manhattan and Paragon Cable, CH C/16 (30)
12:30 AM *The Brenda and Glenna Show*; Manhattan Cable, CH C/16 (see 8:30 PM)
~ 1:00 AM *Gay TV*; gay male porn; Paragon Cable, CH J/23 (30)

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

4:00 PM WCBS-TV *Geraldo*: scandals and the Catholic Church, part I of II; CH 2 (1:00)
4:00 PM WABC-TV *Oprah*: Kitty Dukakis; CH 7 (1:00)
8:00 PM CSPAN *Souter Hearings Preview*: roundtable discussion by personal acquaintances (2:00)
11:00 PM GBS *Out in the 90's*; community news, discussion, interviews; tonight: Vivian Shapiro's roundtable of *Uncommon Women* with live call-in from viewers; Manhattan & Paragon Cable, CH C/16 (1:00)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

9:30 AM WBAI-FM *Ghosts in the Machine*; women in pop, with Victoria Starr; 99.5 FM
4:00 PM WCBS-TV *Geraldo*: scandals and the Catholic Church, part II of II; CH 2 (1:00)
8:00 PM CSPAN *Souter Hearings Preview*: roundtable discussion by personal acquaintances (2:00)
8:00 PM WCBS-TV *National Test on Crime Prevention*: addressing rape, assault, burglary, pickpocket scams, highway crimes; CH 2 (1:00)
10:00 PM MTV *Sex in the '90s*: candid opinions on abortion, AIDS, birth control and pornography (1:30)
~ midnight RB PROD *The Robin Byrd Show*; male and female strippers; Manhattan and Paragon Cable, CH J/23 (1:00)

4:00 AM A&E *Girlfriends* (1978): Claudia Weill's study of a woman who must adjust to living alone (2:00)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

10:00 AM WNET-TV *Souter Confirmation Hearings*: Orrin Hatch may ask the bachelor to confirm his appreciation of family values; CH 13 (8:00)
1:00 PM WBAI-FM *This Way Out*; the int'l gay/lesbian magazine; 99.5 FM (30)
1:30 PM WBAI-FM *An Afternoon Outing*; local news and information about the gay/lesbian community; today: a look at the Latino perspective on our community with Gonzalo Aburto; 99.5 FM (30)
2:30 PM WBAI-FM *AIDS: Paths to Self-Empowerment & Living*: Bob Lederman and Jim Fourt discuss alternative treatments, self-empowerment, politics; with interviews of health practitioners, PWAs, activists; 99.5 FM (1:00)
4:00 PM WCBS-TV *Geraldo*: Zsa Zsa Gabor, did she survive lesbian predators in her soup kitchen?; CH 2 (1:00)
4:00 PM WABC-TV *After School Special: A Question About Sex*: teenager Tracey Gold pushes for more sex education in her high school while nervous Mom runs for school board re-election; CH 7 (1:00)
~ 7:00 PM GBS *Way Out!*: Mark Chesnut and Michelle VanVoorhies host a lesbian and gay entertainment show; Rich Volo, producer, 254-7685; Manhattan Cable, CH J/23 (30)
9:00 PM WLW-TV *People's Podium*: members of our community pose questions to City Health Commissioner Woodrow Myers and openly-gay Mental Health Commissioner Billy E. Jones; Manhattan/Paragon Cable, CH L/25
~ 9:30 PM GMHC *Living With AIDS*: health and politics; Manhattan Cable, CH J/23 (30)
~ 10:30 PM GCN *Gay U.S.A.*: news and entertainment from around the country; Manhattan Cable, CH J/23 (1:00) (For Paragon Cable, see SATURDAY)
~ 11:30 PM RB PROD *Men For Men*: Robin Byrd presents gay male porno stars; Manhattan Cable, CH J/23 (30)
~ 11:30 PM GMHC *Living With AIDS*: health and politics; Paragon Cable, CH J/23 (30)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

10:00 AM WNET-TV *Souter Confirmation Hearings*: a done deal, say many in the loop; CH 13 (8:00)
2:30 PM WBAI-FM *Rompiendo el Silencio*: todos los viernes, Gonzalo Aburto con temas y noticias para la comunidad latina gay y lesbiana; 99.5 FM (15)
~ 7:30 PM *The Gay Dating Game Show*, with Tommy and Lahoma; Manhattan Cable, CH J/23 (30)
7:30 PM WCBS-TV ET: *Jodie Foster*; CH 2 (30)
10:00 PM WABC-TV 20/20: the prostate gland and its tribulations, like enlargement and cancer; CH 7 (1:00)
~ 11:00 PM *Gay TV*: male porno clips (the prostate gland and its triumphs); Manhattan Cable, CH J/23 (30)
~ 1:00 AM RB PROD *Robin Byrd Show*: male and female strippers; Manhattan and Paragon Cable, CH J/23 (1:00)
2:00 AM WPIX-TV *Mommie Dearest* (1981): Faye Dunaway as Joan teaches Christina how to care for her party dresses; see this while taping *Grand Hotel*; CH 11 (2:30)
3:00 AM WNYW-TV (Fox) *Grand Hotel* (1932): Greta Garbo, Joan Crawford, John Barrymore; CH 5 (2:00)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

~ 6:30 PM GCN *Gay U.S.A.*: news and entertainment from around the country; Paragon Cable, CH J/23 (1:00) (For Manhattan Cable, see THURSDAY)
7:00 PM WLW-TV *People's Podium*, see THURSDAY
~ 11:00 PM RB PROD *The Early Bird*: Robin Byrd presents male/female strippers; Manhattan Cable, CH J/23 (1:00)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

7:30 PM WBAI-FM *The Gay Show*: news and information about the lesbian/gay community; every other Sunday, alternating with *OutLooker*; 99.5 FM (1:00)
8:00 PM WNYW-TV (Fox) *The Emmys*; CH 5 (3:00+?)
~ 11:30 PM GCN *Men & Films*: male erotica, interviews with adult filmstars; Manhattan Cable, CH J/23 (30)

DANCING OUT

Monday

Private Eyes (Marc Berkley's *Kool Komrads* w/ Razor Sharp & strippers; students, professionals; \$5) 12 W 21 St, club 206-7772

Tuesday

***Love Machine** (Larry Tee & Lahoma Van Zandt, young & exotic crowd) 860 Bway, at 17 St; 254-4005

***Private Eyes** (Marshall Simon's *Rock 'n' Roll Drag Bar*, \$7) 12 W 21 St, btwn 5th/6th Aves; 206-7774

***Roxy** (Men on Wheels, gay roller skating; starts 8 pm) 515 W 18 St; 645-5156

Wednesday

***Better Days** (primarily gay men of color) 316 W 49 St (8/9 Aves); 245-8925

***Limelight** (Michael Alig & Larry Tee's *Disco 2000*, 10 pm, \$10; *Coors served*) 8th Ave at 20 St; club 807-7850

Private Eyes (YMVA Night; students, professionals, lesbians and non-gay women; \$7) 12 W 21 St, btwn 5th/6th Aves; 206-7772

***Pyramid** (Linda's *Channel 69* party, DJ & live lesbian/gay shows; East Village crowd; \$5) 101 Avenue A, btwn 6/7 Streets; 420-1590

Silver Lining (2-4-1 drinks, also open Tues-Sun, women SAT) 175 Cherry Ln., Floral Pk, LI; 516/354-9641

***Sod-O-Mee** (Lahoma Van Zandt, porn stars, go-go boys; opens 10:30 pm, \$7) 565 W 23 St (11th Ave); 366-5253

Stutz (2-4-1 drinks, also open daily) 202 Westchester Ave, White Plains; 914/761-3100

Thursday

***Copacabana** (last Thu. of the month Susanne Bartsch party, next is Sept. 27; iffy door) 10 E 60 St, at Fifth Ave; 755-6010

Excalibur (\$1 drinks, also open Tues-Sun, women WED) corner 10th/Jefferson behind football stadium, Hoboken, NJ; 201-795-1161

Hatfield's (2-4-1 drinks, female impersonators; also open nightly, women on TUE & FRI) 126-10 Queens Blvd, Kew Gardens, Queens; 718/261-8484

Quick! (Chip Duckett's Thursdays) 6 Hubert St (on Hudson, 5 blocks below Canal); 925-2442

↳ ***Roxy** (*Disco Interruptus*, DJs Sister Dimension & Patrick Butts, entertainment breaks; \$10; opens SEPT 13) 515 W 18; 645-5156

Friday

Columbia Dances (1st Friday of every month, including summer, next is October 5) 116th St & Bway; 854-3574 days

Meat (Aldo Hernandez's alternate Fridays, next is Sept. 14; DJ, go-go boys, videos; opens 10 pm; \$5) 432 W 14 St; 353-3866

Octagon (Patrick's *Friday Night Jam Session*, primarily gay men of color; free muchies; opens 11 pm) 555 W 33 St; 947-0400

Private Eyes (YMVA Night; students, professionals, men) 12 W 21 St, btwn 5th/6th Aves; 206-7772

***Quick!** (*Panty Girdles*; TVs, gays, straights) 6 Hubert St (on Hudson, 5 blocks below Canal); 925-2442

Saturday

Barefoot Boogie (smoke & alcohol free) 434 6th Ave (btwn 9/10 Sts); 832-6759

419 419 N. Highway, Southampton, LI; 516/283-5001

Love Zone (dancing & performers) 70 Beach St, Staten Island; 718/442-5692

Private Eyes (YMVA Night; students, professionals, men) 12 W 21 St, btwn 5th/6th Aves; 206-7772

***Roxy** (gays/TVs/club kids; non-gay women, some lesbians; mix depends on party) 515 W 18 St (btwn 10/11 Aves); 645-5156

Sound Factory (mostly gay; serious House/Club dancing, no alcohol, opens 11 pm) 530 W 27 St (10th/11th Aves); 643-0728

Sunday

***Better Days** (primarily gay men of color) 316 W 49 St (8/9 Aves); 245-8925

The Building (Club Bad's *The Men's Room*, students, professionals, men; go-go boys & 60-ft. ceiling) 51 W 26 St; 576-1890

Monster (Sunday Tea Dance at 4 pm; dancing also on other nights from 10 pm) 80 Grove St at Sheridan Sq.; 924-3557

***Pyramid** (*Scream*, DJs Patrick and Aaron, host Loretta; \$5) 101 Avenue A, btwn 6/7 Streets; 420-1590

***Roxy** (*A Groovy Kind of Love* and YMVA) 515 W 18 St; 645-5156

20/20 (Michael Fesco's Tea Dance, opens 5 pm; \$8; free Mimosas & BMs from 5-7, buffet at 7:30; *Miller served*) 20 W 20 St; 727-8841

Every Night (or almost)

419 (nightly *Gay House Party*, opens 6 pm) 419 N. Highway (Rte 27), Southampton, LI; 516/283-5001

Grand Central (closed Mon & Tues, 2-4-1 drinks Thursday) 210 Merrick Road, Rockville Centre, LI; 516/536-4800

Magic Touch (ethnic mix: Anglo/Latin/Asian) 73-13 37th Rd, Jackson Heights, Queens; 718/429-8805

Monster (West Village) 80 Grove St at Sheridan Sq.; 924-3557

Spectrum (closed Mon-Tue, WED free, THU free & 2-4-1 drinks, FRI m/f strip, SAT record stars, SUN variety show & free 9-10 pm; *Coors served*) 802 64th St @ 8th Ave, Bay Ridge, BKLYN; 718/238-8213

DANCING OUT for Women

Tuesday

Hatfield's 126-10 Queens Blvd., Kew Gardens; 718/261-8484

Grand Central (women's night, also open Wed-Sun) 210 Merrick Road, Rockville Centre, LI; 516/536-4800

Wednesday

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Rd, W. Hempstead, LI; 516/486-9516

Excalibur (*Ladies Night*, \$1 drinks) corner 10th/Jefferson behind football stadium, Hoboken, NJ; 201-795-1161

Private Eyes (*Shescape Afterwork Party*, 5-10 pm; \$5 before 7 pm, \$7 after; 2-4-1 drinks before 7) 12 W 21 St; info 645-6479, club 206-7772

Thursday

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Rd, W. Hempstead, LI; 516/486-9516

Pyramid (Jenny's *Girl Bar*, 8 pm - 2 am) 101 Avenue A (btwn 6/7 Sts); 516/351-3538

Friday

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Rd, W. Hempstead, LI; 516/486-9516

Clit Club (Jocelyn & Julie's alternate Fridays, next is Sept. 21; go-go girls, lesbo videos; 9 pm; \$1 drinks before 10; \$5) 432 W 14 St; 406-1114

Hatfield's 126-10 Queens Blvd., Kew Gardens; 718/261-8484

Millennium (*Ladies' Night*) 1770 NY Ave (Rte 110), Huntington, LI; 516/351-1402

Visions 56-01 Queens Blvd, Woodside; info 718/845-7131, club 718/899-9031

Saturday

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Rd, W. Hempstead, LI; 516/486-9516

↳ **Handle Bar** (*Her Planet*, alternate Saturdays, \$8; opens SEPT 22) 232 E 9 St (btwn 2nd/3rd Aves); info 255-7875

Silver Lining 175 Cherry Lane, Floral Park, LI; 516/354-9641

Starz 836 Grand Boulevard, Deer Park, LI; 516/242-3857

Sunday

Bedrock 121 Woodfield Rd, W. Hempstead, LI; 516/486-9516

Club Paradise (Pyramid Productions, 6 pm - 2 am, \$5 before 8 pm/\$7 thereafter) 15 Waverly Place (btwn 5th Ave/B'way); 533-3048

Love Shack (Jill Reiter's *Booby Trap*, alternative music, \$3) at New Limer, 41 1st Avenue at 2nd St; 777-9477

Pulse (*Shescape Tea Dances for Women*, 7 pm - midnight, \$5 before 8 pm/\$7 thereafter) 226 E 54 St (2nd/3rd Aves); info 645-6479

Every Night (or almost)

Duchess II (small dance floor) Sheridan Sq. & 7th Ave South; 242-1408

Spectrum (closed Mon & Tues; good gay/lesbian mix, see *Every Night*, above, for details) 802 64th St, BKLYN; 718/238-8213

Editor's tips for tourists:

A (*) denotes a club that attracts TVs. A (x) denotes a new listing.

Clubs generally open at 10 pm, close at 4 am, unless otherwise noted. Admissions range from \$5 to \$15. Invites offer discounts, and are sometimes required. It's wise to call ahead to confirm that a party is still happening.

Some clubs, especially Copacabana, but also Limelight, Love Machine, Quick!, Roxy, and others, let people in randomly or selectively; instead of having a simple line at the door. Mixed parties usually get gayer as the night wears on. Discrimination on the basis of race, gender and orientation is illegal. Selectivity

HERITAGE OF PRIDE, INC.
Organizers of New York's Lesbian and Gay Pride events: the March, the Rally and the Dance on the Pier. Call (212) 691-1774 for meeting schedule or more information. 208 West 13th Street, NY, NY 10011.

HETRICK-MARTIN INSTITUTE
for lesbian and gay youth. Counseling, drop-in center (M-F, 3-8pm), rap groups, Harvey Milk High School, AIDS and safer sex information, referrals, professional education. (212) 633-8820 (voice) (212) 633-8826 TTY for deaf

HISPANIC UNITED GAYS & LESBIANS

Educational services, political action, counseling and social activities in Spanish and English by and for the Latino Lesbian and Gay Community. General meetings 8:00 pm 4th Thursday of every month at 208 West 13th Street, Cell (212) 691-4181 or write H.U.G.L., P.O. Box 226 Canal Street Station, New York, NY 10018.

IDENTITY HOUSE

Now in our 20th year, we provide peer counseling, therapy referrals and groups for the lesbian, gay and bisexual community. Call us at (212) 243-8181. Visit us at 544 8th Ave., between 14th-15th Streets, Manhattan.

INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN IDENTITY

Sliding scale fees • Insurance accepted. Gay & Lesbian Psychotherapy (212) 798-8432

LAMBDA LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATION FUND

Precedent-setting litigation nationwide for lesbians, gay men and people with AIDS. Membership (\$40 and up) inc. newsletter and invitations to special events. Volunteer night on Thursdays. Intake calls: 2-4pm Mon thru Fri (212) 905-8585.

LAVA (LESBIANS ABOUT VISUAL ART)

Call for slides for Lesbian Artists' Exhibition, Gay & Lesbian Community Center, NYC. For more information, send SASE to: Miriam Fougera, 118 Fort Greene Place, Brooklyn, NY 11217.

THE LESBIAN AND GAY BIG APPLE CORPS

Get your instrument out of the closet and come play with us. Symphonic, Marching, Jazz, Dixieland, Rock, Flute Ensembles and Woodwinds. 123 West 44th St. Suite 12L, New York, NY 10036 (212) 689-2822.

LESBIAN & GAY COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER

208 West 13th Street, New York, NY 10011 (212) 620-7310 9am-11pm everyday. A place for community organizing and networking, social services, cultural programs, and social events sponsored by the Center and more than 150 community organizations.

LESBIAN AND GAY LABOR NETWORK

An organization of Lesbians and Gays who are active in their labor unions working on domestic partnership benefits and AIDS issues. For more information call (212) 623-6900.

LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS PROJECT

of the Americas Civil Liberties Union **KNOW YOUR RIGHTS/WE'RE EXPANDING THEM**
(212) 944-9800, ext. 545

LESBIANS AND GAYS OF FLATBUSH

Brooklyn's social organization for both gay men and lesbians. P.O. Box 105, Midwood Station, Brooklyn, NY 11230 • (718) 659-9437

LESBIAN HERSTORY ARCHIVES

P.O. Box 1298 New York, New York 10116-212/747-7225 Since 1974, the Archives has inspired, shaped and reflected Lesbian lives everywhere. Call to arrange a visit or to volunteer for Thursday worknights.

LONG ISLAND ACT-UP

Meets Tuesdays at 8pm at 181 Post Ave. in Westbury, NY. Support us for change on Long Island. Mailing address: PO Box 514, Westbury, NY 11590. 516-338-4902.

LSM

is a support and information group for lesbians and bisexual women interested in fantasy, role-playing, bondage, discipline, S/M, fetishes, alternate gender identities, costumes and so forth. Membership is available only to women 18 years and older. Actual experience is not required but genuine interest and an open mind are. For information please write: P.O. Box 903, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10158.

MEN OF ALL COLORS TOGETHER NY

A multi-racial group of gay men against racism. Meetings every Friday night at 7:45 at the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, 208 W. 13th Street. For more info. call (212) 245-6368 or (212) 222-0794.

METROPOLITAN TENNIS GROUP(MTG)

Our 200 member lesbian and gay tennis club includes players from beginning to tournament level. Monthly tennis parties. Winter indoor league. Come play with us! For information: MTG, Suite K103, 488-A Hudson St., New York, NY 10025. (718) 652-6562.

**MOCA
(Men of Color AIDS Prevention Program.)**

Provides safer sex and AIDS education information to gay and bisexual Men of Color; coordinates a network of peer-support groups for gay and bisexual Men of Color in all 5 boroughs of New York City. 303 Ninth Ave., New York, NY 10001 or call (212) 239-1796.

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE

is the national grassroots political organization for lesbians and gay men. Membership is \$30/year. Issue-oriented projects address violence, sodomy laws, AIDS, gay rights ordinances, families, media, etc. through lobbying, education, organizing and direct action. NGLTF, 1517 U Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008. (202) 332-0423.

NEW YORK ADVERTISING AND COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

NYACN is the community's largest gay and lesbian professional group, welcoming all in communications—and their friends. Monthly meetings, 3rd Wed 6:30pm at the Community Center. Members' newsletter, job hotline, annual directory. Phone (212) 517-0380 for more info. Mention Out-Week for one free newsletter.

N.Y. FEMMES

Support and discussion group for lesbians who self-identify as Femme and are primarily attracted to butch women. For membership information call Lisa (212) 629-0817.

N.Y. WOMEN'S SOFTBALL GUILD

For experienced, serious Softball Players, Coaches and Managers. We play mod/fast pitch weekends in Manhattan and Queens. Try-outs begin Feb. 11 thru April or until filled. (212) 255-1379 Janet.

NINTH STREET CENTER

Since 1973, a community dedicated to demonstrating that a homosexual lifestyle is a rational, desirable choice for individuals dissatisfied with the rewards of conventional living. Psychologically - focussed rap groups, Tues., Sat., 8 to 10 pm. peer counseling available. 319 E. 9 Street, New York, NY 10003, for info call (212) 228-5153.

NORTH AMERICAN MAN/BOY LOVE ASSOCIATION (NAMBLA)

Dedicated to sexual freedom and especially interested in gay intergenerational relationships. Monthly Bulletin and regular chapter meetings on the first Saturday of each month. Yearly membership is \$20; write NAMBLA, PO Box 174, Midtown Station, New York, NY 10018 or call (212) 807-8578 for information.

NORTHERN LIGHTS ALTERNATIVES

Improving Quality of Life for People with AIDS/HIV. THE AIDS MASTERY WORKSHOP: Exploring the possibilities of a powerful and creative life in the face of AIDS. Call (212) 255-8554.

NYC GAY & LESBIAN ANTI-VIOLENCE PROJECT

Counseling, advocacy, and information for survivors of anti-gay and anti-lesbian violence, sexual assault, domestic violence, and other types of victimization. All services free and confidential 24-hour hotline (212) 607-0197.

PEOPLE WITH AIDS COALITION

(212) 502-0200/1-800-628-3280/Hotline (212) 502-0588/Monday thru Friday 10am-6pm. Meal programs, support groups, educational and referral services for PWA's and PWAs.

PEOPLE WITH AIDS HEALTH GROUP

Underground buyer's club importing not-yet-approved medications and nutritional supplements. 31 West 26th St., 4th Floor (212) 532-0280

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336 Canal Street, 8th Floor, NYC 10013 212-645-3351

QUEER NATION

The Lesbian and Gay direct action group dedicated to fighting homophobia and Gay and Lesbian invisibility. Anyone can suggest an action and should come to meetings prepared to organize and implement it. QN, Box 1524, Cooper Station, New York, NY 10003. Call 212-463-7208 for meeting info.

**SAGE
(Senior Action in a Gay Environment)**

Social Service Agency, providing care, activities, & educational services for gay & lesbian senior citizens. Also serves over 100 homobound senior & older PWAs. 200 West 13th St., NYC 10011, (212) 741-2907

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THE OUTREACH USING COMMUNAL HEALING (TOUCH)

Community volunteers providing a weekly buffet supper for the Brooklyn AIDS community. TOUCH meets Monday eves. 5pm to 6:30pm- at downtown Brooklyn Friends Meeting House (110 Schenckham St. near Bousin Place). Limited transportation may be arranged. Info: (718) 622-2758. TOUCH welcomes contributions of funds, food and volunteers.

ULSTER COUNTY GAY AND LESBIAN ALLIANCE

Meets first and third Monday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Unitarian Church on Saville Road in Kingston. For information, call (914) 658-2303.

UPPER MANHATTAN TASK FORCE ON AIDS

Education, Hotline, Supportive Case Management, and Volunteer Recruitment and Referrals. 212-670-3352

WHAMI (Women's Health Action And Mobilization)

A direct-action group committed to demanding, securing and defending absolute reproductive freedom and quality health care for all women. We meet every Wed. at 6:30 pm at 105, E 22nd St., 4th Floor. (212) 713-5986. Mailing address: WHAMI, P.O. Box 733, NYC 10009

WOMEN'S ALTERNATIVE COMMUNITY CENTER (WACC)

A non-profit, Lesbian community center serving Queens, Nassau and Suffolk counties. Thurs night weekly discussion groups. 8:30pm, for other activities please contact us at (516) 483-2050.

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Chelsea Transfer, 131 8th Ave. (bet. 16th & 17th), 929-7183
Eagle's Nest, 142 11th Ave (21st St.), 691-8451
Private Eyes, 12 W. 21st St. (bet. 5th & 6th), 206-7770
Rawhide, 212 8th Ave., (21st St.), unlisted.
Spike, 120 11th Ave., 243-9688

WEST VILLAGE

The Annex (to Cellblock 28), 673 Hudson St. (bet. 13th & 14th), 627-1140—Temporarily Closed
Badlands, Christopher & West St., 741-9236
Boots & Saddle, 76 Christopher St., 929-9684
Cellblock 28, 28 9th Ave, 733-3144—open on a limited basis; call for info
The Cubbyhole, 438 Hudson (Morton St.), 243-9079 (Now for Men)
Crazy Nanny's, 21 7th Avenue South, 366-6312 (Women)

D.T.'s Fat Cat, 281 W. 12th St., 243-9041
Duchess II, 70 Grove St (7th Ave.), 242-1408 (Women)
Dugout, 185 Christopher St., 242-9113 (formerly the Ramrod)
Eighty Eights, 228 W 10 St., 924-0088
J's (The Hangout), 675 Hudson St., 242-9292
Julius, 159 W. 10th St., 929-9672
Keller's, 384 West St. (at Christopher), 243-1907
Kelly's Village West, 46 Bedford St., 929-9322
Marie's Crisis, 59 Grove St. (7th Ave), 243-9323
The Monster, 80 Grove St. (7th Ave.), 242-3558
New Jimmy's, 53 Christopher, 463-0950
Ninth Circle, 139 W. 10th St., 243-9204
Sneakers, 392 West St., 242-9830.
Two Potato, 145 Christopher St., 242-9340.
Ty's, 114 Christopher, 741-9641.
Uncle Charlie's, 56 Greenwich Ave., 255-8787

WEST SIDE

Candle Bar, 309 Amsterdam Ave., 874-9155

Cat's, 730 8th Ave., 221-7559
Don't Tell Mama, 343 W. 46th St., 757-0788
Gents, 360 W 42 St. (9th Ave), 967-0659
Sally's Hideaway, 264 W. 43 St., 221-9152
Town & Country, 9th Ave at 46th St., 307-1503
Trix, 246 W. 48 St. (bet. Bdwy & 8th Ave), 664-8331
The Works, 428 Columbus Ave (at 81st), 799-7365

EAST SIDE

Bogart's, 320 E. 59th St., 688-8534
Brandy's Piano Bar, 235 E. 84th St., 650-1944
G.H. Club, 353 E. 53rd St., 223-9752
Johnny's Pub, 123 E. 47th St., 355-8714
NY Confidential, 306 E 49 St., 308-8390
Regent East, 204 E. 58th St., 355-9465
Rounds, 303 E. 53rd St., 593-0807
South Dakota, 405 3rd Ave (at 29 St.), 684-8376
Star Sapphire, 400 E. 59th St., 688-4710
The Townhouse, 236 E. 58th St., 754-4649
Twenty-Nine Palms, 129 Lexington Ave., 686-8299

EAST VILLAGE

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Boy Bar, 15 St. Mark's Pl., 674-7959
The Pyramid, 101 Avenue A, 420-1590
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Sweet Sensations, 6322 20th St., 435-2580

QUEENS (718)

Breadstix, 113-24 Queens Blvd., Forest Hills, 236-0300
Hatfield's, 126-10 Queens Blvd., Kew Gardens, 261-8484
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Grand Central, 210 Merrick Rd., Rockville Centre, 536-4800

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Station House Pub, 3547 Merrick Rd., Seaford, 785-9808

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419, 419 North Highway (Rt. 27), Southampton, 283-5001

Bunkhouse, 192 N. Main St., Sayville, 567-2865

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Ice Palace, Cherry Grove Beach Club, Fl, 597-6600

Kiss, 161 Farmardie Dr., Lake Ronkonkoma, 467-9273

Club 608, 608 Sunrise Hwy., W. Babylon, 661-9580

Millennium, 1770 NY Ave., Huntington, 351-1402

Starz, 836 Grand Boulevard, Deer Park, 242-3857

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Charlie's West, 536 Main St., E. Orange, 678-5002

Feather's, 77 Kinderkamack Rd., River Edge, 342-6410

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American Foundation for AIDS Research
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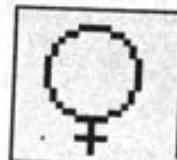


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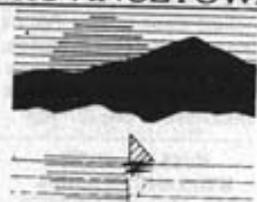
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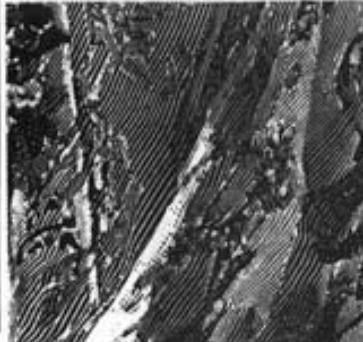
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hunt



coming september 17

PERSONALS

women's personals

WET AND WILD WOMON

Young mermaid seeks similar like minded swimmer, diver or water person for wet and wild times on the beach, in the tub or the pool. Swim suits not needed. Diving at your own risk. Send photo/letter/phone to my Outweek Box 3287

GOOD OL' FASHIONED CO
dependent seeks same for mutual caretaking. I'll anticipate your needs before you even know what they are. Fill the voids, if ya know what I mean. (I'd like to hear from the lesbian who GETS this joke). Write, photo, phone, favorite breakfast cereal box top to Outweek Box 3281

A LITTLE QUIZ:
What would you do with an ice-cube?

- a) drop it into a glass of Edensoy
- b) drop it into a glass of Coke
- c) put it on the sidewalk on a hot day & watch it melt, just to pass the time
- d) thunk someone on the nose with it if she/he is being a jerk
- e) place it gingerly in a cooler & send it to Alaska
- f) none of the above
- g) all of the above
- h) other (details)
Your answer will tell me a lot about you & if we'd have great date...

answers, photo, SAT scores, to Outweek Box 3253

BROOKLYN BABE

seeks companion for fall frolic. Unattached, sexy, intelligent, secure. We have these traits in common, yes?

Tell me about yourself. I'm 23, 5'4" br/br, 125. A photo is a good thing...I'll send one in return. Write, already! Outweek Box 3252

WF, 38, FABULOUS,
fun, feminist, lives in Soho. Longing to meet brilliant, beautiful woman. Please send note and photo, if possible. Outweek Box 3241

SINGLE GWF, 24
seeks similar for serious relationship. No games. No duds. No self-loathers. No closet cases. Send letter & photo to: Outweek Box 3240

TROPICAL TIP OF TEXAS

Elegant Nurse Black seeks relocatable fem nurse a plus birthdate P.O. Box 242 Hargill, Texas Come to paradise fun sun no fur

WILL YOU TEACH ME...

Young, fit, sexy lesbian, looking for the woman of her fantasy. Blindfolds, rope

tied (but not too tight), a fierce sex partner—a true artisan at the task of giving/receiving sensual pleasure...is this you? What can you teach me? Photo please. Outweek Box 3234

HEAVENLY BODY LOOKING FOR VENUS

a soulmate mentally & spiritually to source the galaxies of love. Let's embrace and explore the pleasures of lesbian love. Do you enjoy moonlit nights, by candle light, hot soothing baths, the feel of a tongue caressing your body, dipping in and out of every curve, until the ultimate orgasm takes over you, then warmth and gentle cuddling under a warm blanket after making love, I give great phone send photo & phone. Outweek Box 3233

DANISH-AMERICAN GF, 29 ISO

Skandinavian soul-sister for long, depressing walks on the beach, contemplations of the many varieties of herring and self-absorbed, moody times. Oh- we can also go out dancing and spend a lot of time discussing the blond highlights in our hair. Respond

with photo, phone, and tell me whether you prefer the fishing villages on the North or Baltic Sea. Skoll Outweek Box 3232

G/F, 37, READY TO TAKE A CHANCE

again. Kind, gentle, supportive. Enjoy the outdoors, animals, quiet times, working out. Non-smoker, non-drinker, no drugs. Seeks G/F to share friendship +. Write Box 34 Midland Park, NJ 07432-0034

SHY, ENERGETIC GF

interested in dating a woman who, upon meeting, would be as embarrassed as I that we met through the personals. I smoke but do not drink. Have a serious sense of humor. I like engaging conversations and the football Giants. I make a good soup. Send me a picture. Tell me about you. Outweek Box 3214

WANT TO ESCAPE IT ALL?

House to share free of charge to GWF who will relocate to Bucks Co. 30 mins. by car from Center City Phila. in exch. for occas. 3-dog-sitting and stable companionship. I am

GWF prof. who owns house but no longer "owns" housemate. Needs inside cleanup but will be lovely. Previous owners demented. I value permanence, loyalty, and continuity, am an intellectual, moderate workaholic, smoker. Your sincere letter brings details. Outweek Box 3224

BEAT ME WHIP ME MAKE ME ADVERTISE

in the personals! GWF 32 chunk o woman fem pretty social slightly twisted seeks an aggressive attractive butch dyke with a taste for leather and lace. Outweek Box 3185

"DOES ANYONE KNOW HOW TO KISS

out there?" Very attractive lesbian voluptuary seeks great set of lips. No strings, just smackers. Sensuous, gorgeous and healthy need only apply. Outweek Box 3175

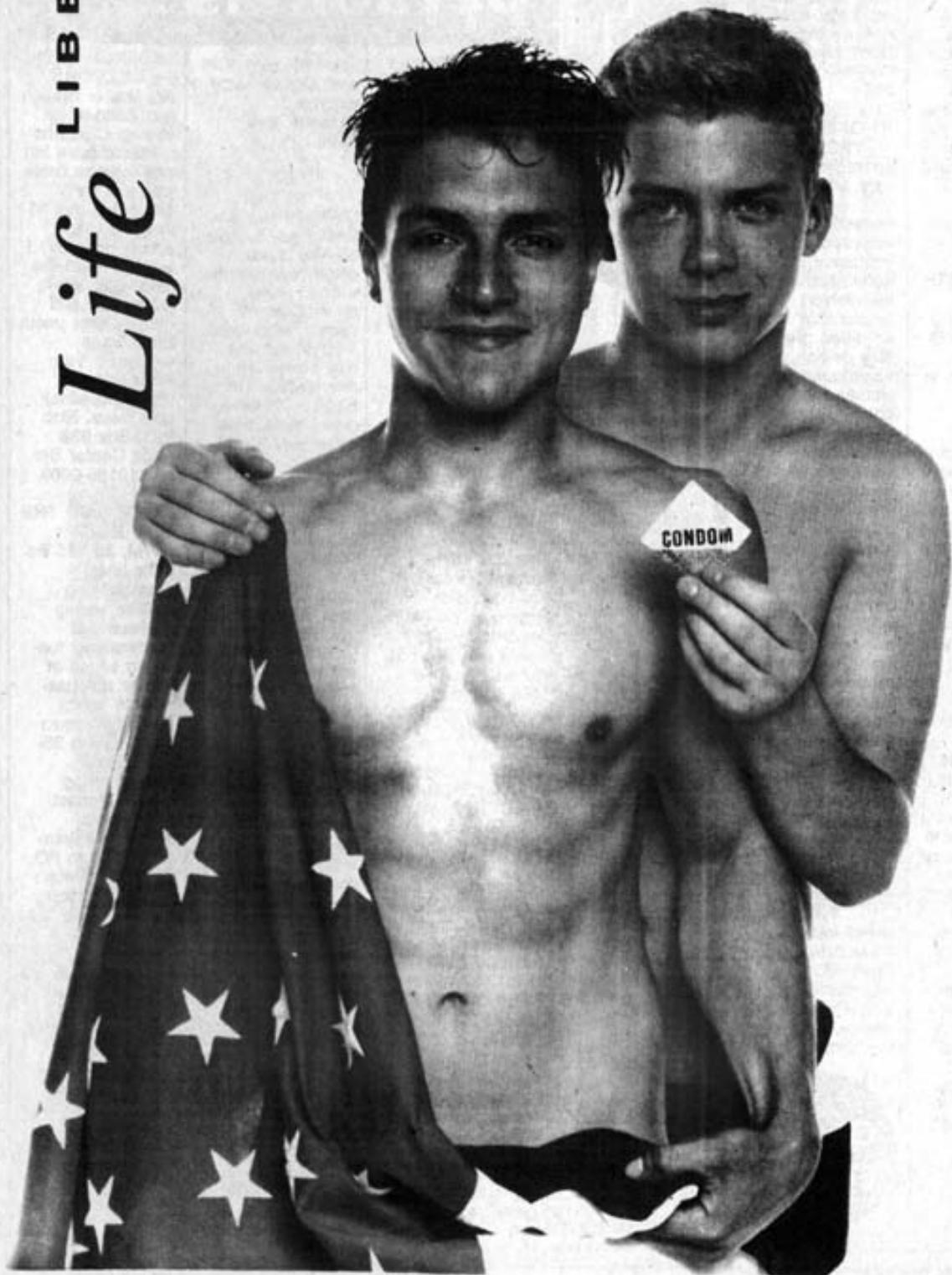
WHAT I LOVE:

There is no comparison to the perfect meal, a twenty-minute kiss, the slow roll of sweat—breast to breast—my hand on your hand (directing it) the rising of thighs, a wicked, hot tumble. There cannot be anything better

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HAPPINESS



than coming together, then laughing at those strange sounds that wet bodies make...the water of your tongue...the sound of your laugh. I know you know what I mean. I know you're out there. Write to me. Tell me what you love. This young lesbian seeks her match. Outweek Box 3129

**I'VE WAITED
LONG
ENOUGH TO
WRITE THIS
AD**

Every lesbian in this city is already involved, so I figure why not take this opportunity to fulfill a fantasy of mine. Why not advertise for a COUPLE?! It's kinda racy, I know, a little nutsy, but I'm into it. So, the stats: I'm 23, GWF, good body (hell, I enjoy it!), dark brown hair & eyes, genuine smile; I love to laugh & bring out the nut in shy women and get into a frenzy with like-minded folks. I say what I mean & appreciate the same in others; there is too much to write—23 year's worth of life is not easily slashed down to a 2-3 inch personals ad...anyway, if this has caught your eye & you feel as adventurous as I do, send a fun photo & telling

letter about yourselves. Perhaps mutual earthly delights can be met. I've taken the first step, now it's your turn. Clean fun—no drugs. Pref. nonsmokers. Don't hesitate... Outweek Box 2894

SINGLE GWF, 25 YRS., 6FT, androgynous, very attractive, real, ambitious, honest, gainfully employed, interested in a nonaddictive friendship/relationship with an older, preferably Jewish, sexy, voluptuous woman who enjoys wearing high heels, and passionate weekends in the Hamptons. Please no substance abusers, bis, or smokers. Clear minded emotionally stable women who enjoy and are passionate about life need reply. All replies responded to. Photo & note please. I'd love to sweep you off your feet. I'm a true romantic. Outweek Box 2812

**SENSUOUS
TOMBOY 30
YRS,** seeks lesbian 25-35 to date. Seven-Sisters' educated. I no longer drink/smoke. Outweek Box 2805

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**3
FOR
1**

**WOMENS
PERSONALS
CLIP THIS
AD**



men's personals

**SCORPIO
RISING**
Married GWM, 35, 6', 225 lbs, virile, bearded, handsome NJ resident wants to discipline bold, adventurous, guys for raunchy weekends. You know who you are! You name it, I'm into it! But I'm in charge, got it? Likes bikers. When the wife's away, this Scorpio plays. Rough! Outweek Box 3304

**SEEKS OTHER
BI/GAYS**
WM 30's 6'1" 200 lbs hdsn stashes seeks men with car or not afraid to travel to N.J. for hot horny healthy safe sex. Must to clean. Married OK. Day or evening. (201) 943-1472 anytime.

I LOVE CHARLOTTE'S WEB
Good wine. Music that inspires. Sweaty dancing. Children. Calvin Trillen. Company. Solitude. Being sexual. Being sensual. Water. Fresh food. Lazy Sundays. Busy Mondays... 26 yr.old city kid, 5'11", 155, brown hair, green eyes, looking for other. Responses will be reviewed on a rolling admissions basis. Letter appreci-

ated. Photo optional. Honesty expected. Outweek Box 3296

**LET'S
GO OUT**
GWM 32 seeks a similar guy to age 35 who is educated, warm, cute, a good kisser, nonsmoker of course, who wants a boyfriend and might think I'm the one for him. I'm 5'10", 175, have green eyes, nice smile, and a real romantic streak. Write to become the object of my affection. POB 523 New York, NY 10040

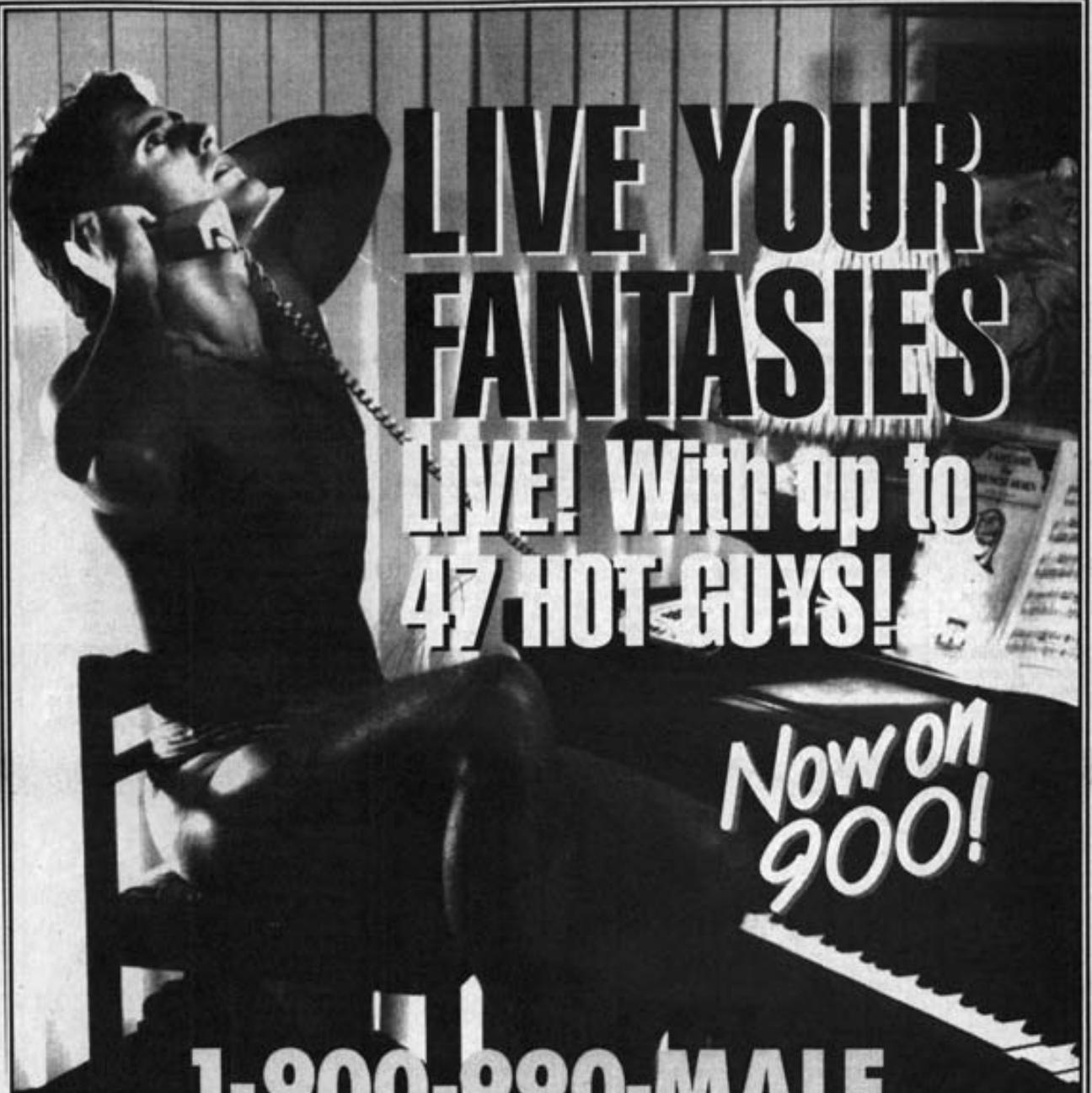
**HEY
LITTLE
BROTHER**
BIG brother 6'4" 195 lbs, 35, blond in good shape and goodlooking seeks little brother 20-35 for fun, intense safe times, work outs, massages and more. Let's live out the fantasy. Your letter and photo(if possible) gets mine. Rich POB 938 Rock Center Station, NY 10185-0009

**HOT PHOTO
SWAP**
Horny Latino, 30 attractive, masculine wants to show off. Yours gets mine. Any race. P.O. Box 8026, New York, NY 10150-2411

FRENCH RENDEZVOUS
Are you a French guy living or visiting U.S. who wants to have fun and intense times with a hot 6'4" 195 blond guy 35 in good shape and handsome? I want to learn the language, share massages and more. Other uncut Europeans welcome. Your letter and photo (if possible) gets mine. Rich P.O. Box 938 Rock Center Sta. NY 10185-0009

**COME SAID THE
MUSE**
GWM, 36 165 lbs gr/gr healthy great looking athletic strong professional hardworking fun-loving sense of humor compassionate warm preppy wildman seeks GWM 25-35 of similar nature willing upbeat honest affectionate sense of adventure ph/ph to PO Box 1831 Peter Cooper Station, New York NY 10009-8910

**BLOND/BLUE 32
148# GREAT
BOTTOM**
Great head. North Jersey honest sincere but inexperienced looks for similar guy 18-30 for friends and more - write with photo to POB 302 Midland Park, NJ



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BODY-BUILDER
GWM, 38 195#, will use, abuse you just the way you want it. You are worthless and you know it. Safe sex only. Replies with explicit photo, letter of desire, phone # too: WL LTS20276, NYC 10011-9993

NICE GUY NICE BODY

Nice guy with nice body seeks like individual with passion for life and great sex meetings. No bullshit. Outweek Box 3285

SUPER MUSCLE

GWM, 38 195# non BB wants you for friend confident, possible lover if we hit it off. Friendship at first. Serious only. Replies with photo, letter, phone# too: SM LTS20053

NYC 10011-9993

MAN MEAT MONSTER

Local sex animal looking for young muscle dudes into long hot sessions with soothing fish oils and sandpacks. Must like Gregorian love chants and

extended vacations in humid climates. Outweek Box 3280

MUSCLE BONDAGE

Hot BB 28yrs 5'8" 175# 17A 46C 30W looking for musc guy to tie me up and wok me over. Tight inescapable ropes, merciless tormenting. Safe/sane intense fun. Photo/phone to POB 966 NY NY 10113-0905

LOVESEXY

Jewish American Prince, 26, 5'10", 160, seeks literate creative preppy for repartee, friendship, and maybe a walk through the purple rain. (I know this is perverse, but I'm especially attracted to lawyers.) Out-

week Box 3278

GWM, 35 YRS, BL, 5'11", 145 pds. Handsome, secure, intelligent, likes jazz, classical, outdoors, politics, The Fountainhead, seeks GW 30-42 yrs that is ready for a monogamous relationship only. Ph/phone, letter, serious only. Outweek Box 3272

SADIST DADDY TOP

Muscle-bound sadist Daddy Top with large man tool and bull balls seeks passive, submissive latin fuck stud for long hard butt sessions and fierce ball licking therapy classes. No slinkies, femmes or wannabes. Ph/Ph to Outweek Box

3271

CAPITAL DISTRICT

two guys looking for a third or another couple for dive-right-in fun and games. We like long, hot tit plat, licking, probing and sucking. We are both in our 30's, furry, slutty and have BIG ONES - you should too. Reply to P.O. Box 1469, Troy, NY 12181

FUN-LOVING BOTTOM

with a sense of wonder for life. 32 5'9" 145 lbs bl attracive, affectionate prof. I run, workout, enjoy movies, plays, read and like simple pleasures. Seek top (pref. dark) to share same. PH/PH Box X3, 496A

Hudson St, NYC 10014. Let's get together!

DEAR ABBY
Most 30 year old cute, spunky, intelligent, sexy guys seek same or younger. None seem to have time for me. What's a poor 44 year old boy to do? (am cute, spunky, intelligent and sexy myself) Reply to Outweek 3264

TWO LOVERS
seek third for friendship and hot safe times. We are 33, 160, BL and 22, 150, Latin looking. Both 5'11" & HIV-. You are 18 to 35 and in shape. Send letter (photo helps) to Outweek Box 3263

URBAN GUERILLA SEEKS

*just the
personals of the week*

WET AND WILD WOMON

Young mermaid seeks similiar like minded swimmer, diver or water person for wet and wild times on the beach, in the tub or the pool. Swim suits not needed. Diving at your own risk. Send photo/letter/phone to my Outweek Box 3287

I LOVE CHARLOTTE'S WEB

Good wine. Music that inspires. Sweaty dancing. Children. Calvin Trillen. Company. Solitude. Being sexual. Being sensual. Water. Fresh food. Lazy Sundays. Busy Mondays... 26 yr.old city kid, 5'11", 155, brown hair, green eyes, looking for other. Responses will be reviewed on a rolling admissions basis. Letter appreciated. Photo optional. Honesty expected. Outweek Box 3296

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CORNFED**FARMBOY**

Stressed out city boy, 5'9" cacazoid, good looks seeks romance in the outback. I know you're out there. Willing to travel for healthy times in the back 40 or in the hayloft. Nude horse-back riding? Paint the barn? Yee-hah! Photo/phone gets mine. Outweek Box 3260

CONNECTICUT MUFFIN FACTORY

rendez-vous the selection has never looked better than when you enter in the morning, new blue messenger bag slung

over your shoulder, close-cropped dark hair and rimless glasses. I'm the tan, 35, blond wavy hair preppy-type with glasses reading the

paper on the bench outside. Stop and have your black coffee and scone with me before you scurry down the street - I won't bite - just shy. Outweek Box 3259

ANNOYING QUEER

Skinny boys with good taste, artistically inclined, jangling jewelry OK. Club scene? Sometimes. Hobbies include dropping water balloons on straight couples from rooftops.

Come visit my dinky apt. We'll boff til the neighbors bang on the walls from all

the noise. Me? 5'10" white boy w/ brown hr. grey eyes, moderately smooth. Outweek Box 3258

IN AND OUT

Tender, loving good-looking top guy wants something of value with a mature guy who shines inside and outside and enjoys being in love. I'm a GWM, 43, 5'9", 155 lbs. You're over 30 but not overweight. Phone + pic. to P.O. Box 746, NY 11354

MAN SEEKS MAN

GWM, 33 6'2" 180 br;br mous-

tache, wks out, handsome, employed, fun who enjoys dancing and the company of other men not seeking lover but several boyfriends would be O.K. Seeks man (key word man) in 30's to share some hot times together. Outweek Box 3239

OPEN INVITATION

Two young clean-cut GWM's (ages 22 & 25) give you an "open" invitation to enjoy a hot, healthy three-way. Send phone, photo, and desires to Outweek Box 3238

TOKYOITE, 24, 5'9", slim, good-looking, romantic,

intelligent and healthy. Seeks GWM who is honest and sincere for companionship — possible relationship. Serious replies only. Ph/ph please. P.O. Box 294, NY, NY 10116-0294

ITALIO-AMERICAN

30, slim and good-looking. As a slave of beauty I need a man who makes me want to eat his ears, but I'll never settle for a looker who bores me. With a self image that ranges from pathetic sissy to rugged street-smart sailor, I don't know if I want to be possessed or to possess. Maybe I'd like to take care of someone

who doesn't need it. If you consider yourself non-traditionally sexy and are intrigued, write. Robert. Outweek Box 3219

WHAT A SUMMER

I can't stand it. Just when you get comfortable knowing that you are wild about a friend, his long summer vacation is over. And you feel at a real loss. I can't stand it. Remember that first weekend at the Roxy when we realized just how fabulous each other was: a week of clubbing followed. The when you returned from Fire Island, a couple more weeks of clubbing and

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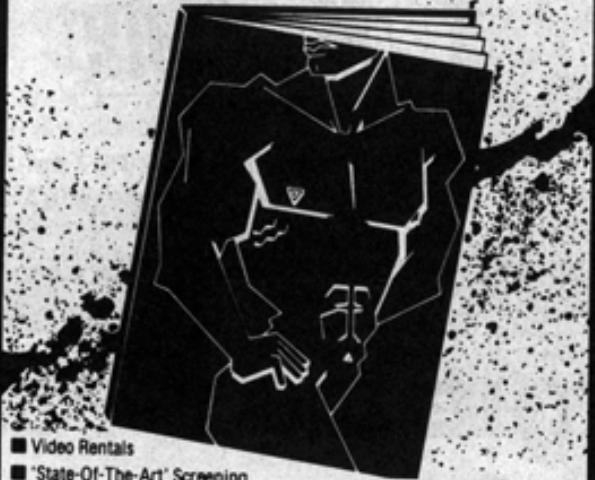
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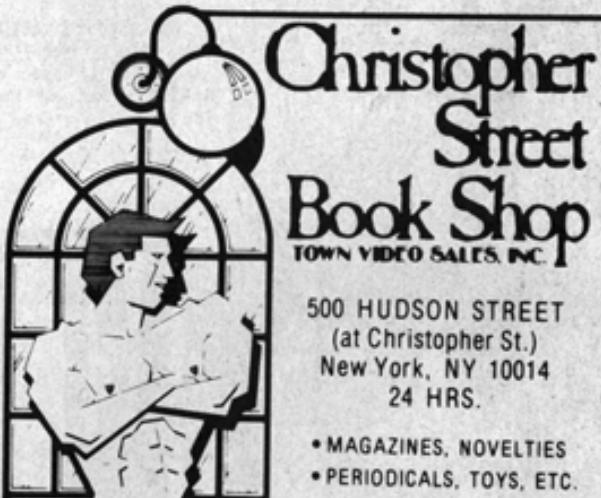
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MEET

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activism. Dancing with Grace, protesting in Montreal, me falling in "love?" there, then Fire Island and you getting caught spinning your pony-tail round and round, using it as a whip to beat your trick with (and we all thought you were a top!), more activism, more clubs—including the night at Sodomee when I was as usual a star. I can't stand it. You're going back to L.A. I'll miss you, you "gay activist wannabe." If there's anybody out there who thinks they could be as wild, write me. Outweek Box 3215

BEEFY PECS WITH VIM

If you are in shape, love to receive/give vigorous massage have a keen sense of muscle eroticism, this solid, short, mature guy with impressive torso wants you for dynamite session. Any age, race but must be fit. Letter, photo. Outweek Box 3202

CLIPPER HAIR CUTS

Handsome, hung Wm, 31, turns on to cleaning you up—flattops, crewcuts, military, punk, headshaves. Already short-haired guys also get me hot. POB 2291, New York, NY 10185

GAY DAD & SON?

Sexy GWM wants to get it on w/gay or bi father & son. Photo/

Prefer together; separately ok. Must be real hot looking for "Daddy's Boy" scene. Me: Attr, 36, 5'11", 190, br/hz, hot. P.O. Box 2520 Times Sq. Sta. NYC 10108.

PICK ME! PICK ME!

GWM 32 6' 175 sparkly hazel eyes, thinning brown hair, friendly/approachable w/warm smile, XLNT sense of humor, varied interests from football to ballet, looking for friendship from 30-45 GWM; we'll talk sex later, send letter/optional photo Outweek Box 3176

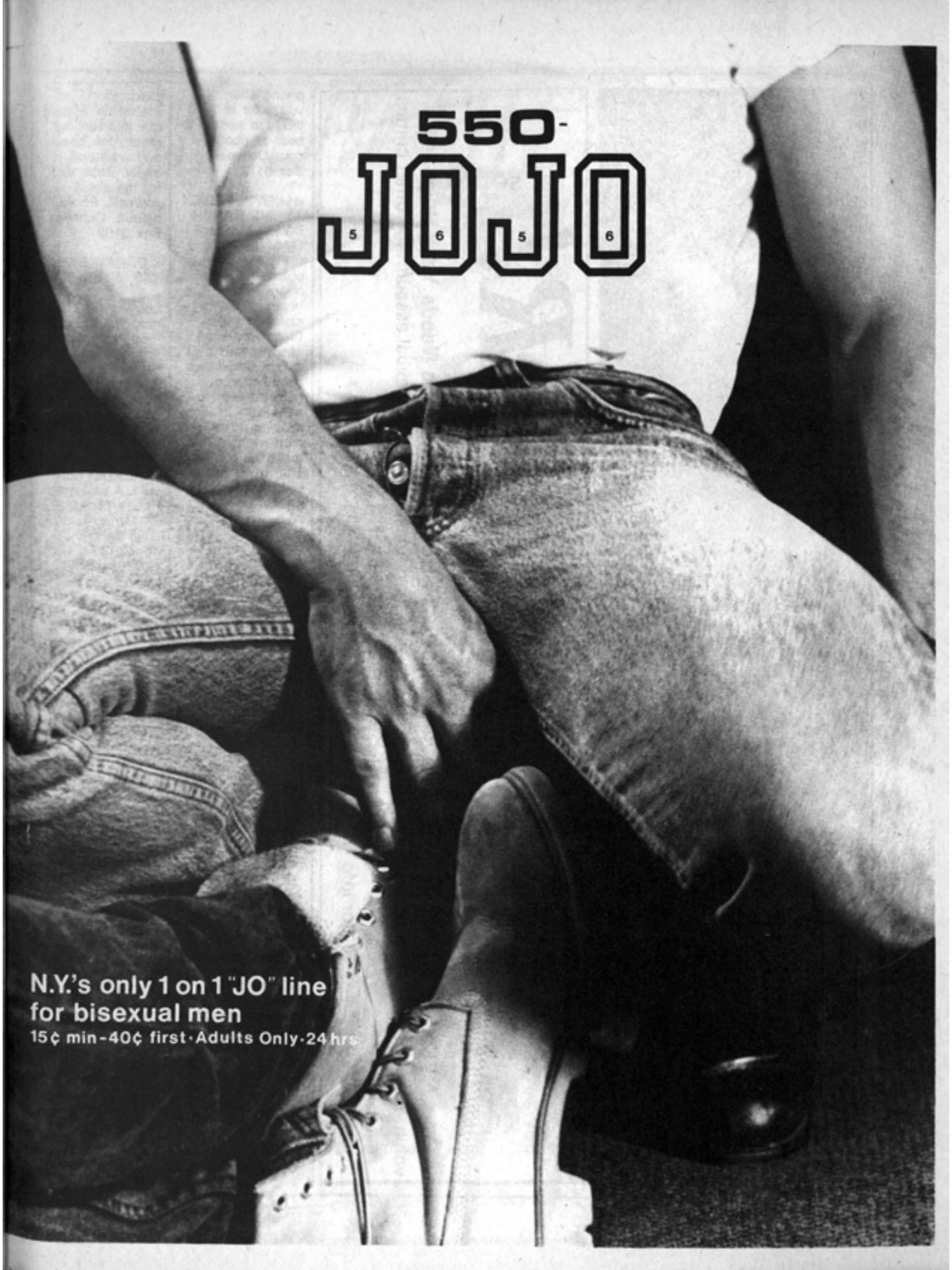
SUBMISSIVE, MANLY GWM SEEKS

in-shape, dominant man (25-60) for SS No drugs, pot, boozers, hustlers. Easy apartment car parking here. Box LSA, 1328 B'Way, #1054, NYC 10001. I dig men wearing uniforms, jeans, business suits.

HUGE BASKET
8", well, maybe 7 1/2"...

looking for other like-sized dudes for hot August nights. Let's roam the East Village, holding hands laughing dancing till dawn... bags & lox when the sun comes up. We'll fall asleep in each other's arms, only to wake with your tongue in my ear...

I'm 28, sexy bod, full lips, and Boy, have I got eyes for you. Photo/



550-
JOJO
5 6 5 6

**N.Y.'s only 1 on 1 "JO" line
for bisexual men**

15¢ min-40¢ first·Adults Only·24 hrs



THE BROOKLYN QUEENS
GAY PARTY LINE
550-STUD

5 minutes \$1.00 Adults only.

VOLUNTEER!

The NYC Gay & Lesbian Anti-Violence Project's 24-Hour Crisis Hotline Needs Your Help!
volunteers work with survivors of anti-lesbian/anti-gay assault, domestic violence, sexual assault, and other crimes

Training Begins September 13th

For info & to sign up call Robert Vazquez (212) 807-0197

phone/letter. If you're for real, then I'm waiting to hear all about you. Outweek Box 3172

4-bMEANWHILEBACK
AT THE RANCH
Cute & slim prof GWM Mid-20's 6'1" Bi/Bl mstche pulling back the reigns in the hopes of being closer to fine. Closet romantic and dreamchaser with a sometimes pithy sense of humor and a no-nonsense intellect seeking a "mi media naranja" to make me a better man. Sense of humor & mustache a plus—must be willing to grow either. PH/PH appreciated. Outweek Box 3171

MIKE
GWM, 46 5'11" 155 lbs, thoughtful, empathetic. I like classical music, especially opera, sports, theater, restaurants, travel, politics. HIV-. Looking for HIV-male, 35-48, for a growing relationship. Mike (212) 222-1465

HOT, GYM-BODY, 36, 5'8", Architect, can make you laugh, make you think, HIV-Neg AIDS widower wants & knows how to build a good relationship. Seeks same for as many of the above items as you are. Outweek Box 3103

HIV+ GWM BR/HZ 6'
180 25 very hot very masculine in good shape

looking for + hot masculine mature guy into running mountains beach and weekend travel. Write and tell me about yourself. Photo helpful. Outweek Box 3102

CARRIBEAN, GW, 5'10", B/BR 158

Looking for TBear muscles included. moustache/beard appreciated. Strong, sensitive, affectionate, bit possessive. Into getting to know someone and not afraid of commitment. Handsome not cute. A real man. Phone photo. Please no fems. Love Italians 30-45. Me 25. Outweek Box 3097

SOMEONE TO WATCH OVER ME

Lovely 19yr. old houseboy from Provincetown is seeking a serious live-in situation in the city while I study cosmetology next fall. I am honest, bright, and adorable. Please respond if you can help. You won't be disappointed. For business or pleasure. I am ready, willing, and eager to please. Tell me what you need. No serious drug abusers please. Outweek Box 3093

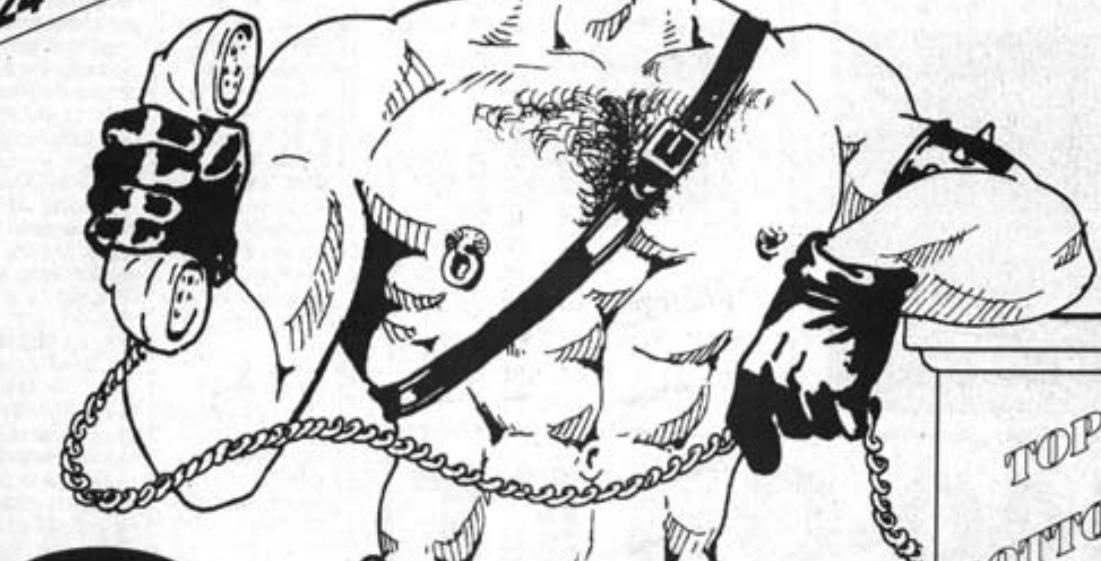
ME: CHUBBY GWM

Babyfaced 37, 5'5", 200, Br/Br, cln. shv., hairy chest, u/c. You 45 or under, masculine, well-built, any race (Asians, "South Asians" a+) hot body.

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HOT LEATHERMEN
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September 13th

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Call Robert Vazquez
(212) 807-0197

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THE REAL PARTY LINE



€ 95 per minute, \$2.00 for the first

NIGHT CLUB INFO • TALKING PERSONALS • FIRE
ISLAND FERRY SCHEDULE & WEATHER UPDATES

hotter mind! Us: SAFE, sweaty good times (maybe fantasy wrestling?) in my midtown apt. day or night. Photo or description to: TJ, Box 112, Executive Suite, 330 W. 42nd St., NYC 10036.

BASEBALL, HOTDOGS, SODOMY, AND CHEVROLET
After the game, don't you want to kick back in the back seat of the car and let me lick your foot long? With your legs up in the air, your uniform pulled down to your ankles and your cleats ripping the upholstery, together we can rev up a homo run or two with the great American pastime: GAY SEX! Photo please, in or out of uniform. Outweek Box 2942

OPPOSITES ATTRACT GWM
33, bearded, balding, sexy big hairy guy seeks masculine sensual man, thin to well built under 40. Call (212) 929-8605 P.S. Men who are creative, sexy and mysterious a plus!

display ad that goes in the men's personals section— Manmate 4.5" wide/2 3/4" high

GLORY HOLE SERVICE
Hot, horsehunk, no nonsense cocksucker. Goes down for other horse dick dudes. Experienced, muscular

rootmilking deepthroat assured. Age, race, unimportant. Cock size is. Serious. DUKE. (212) 691-3601.

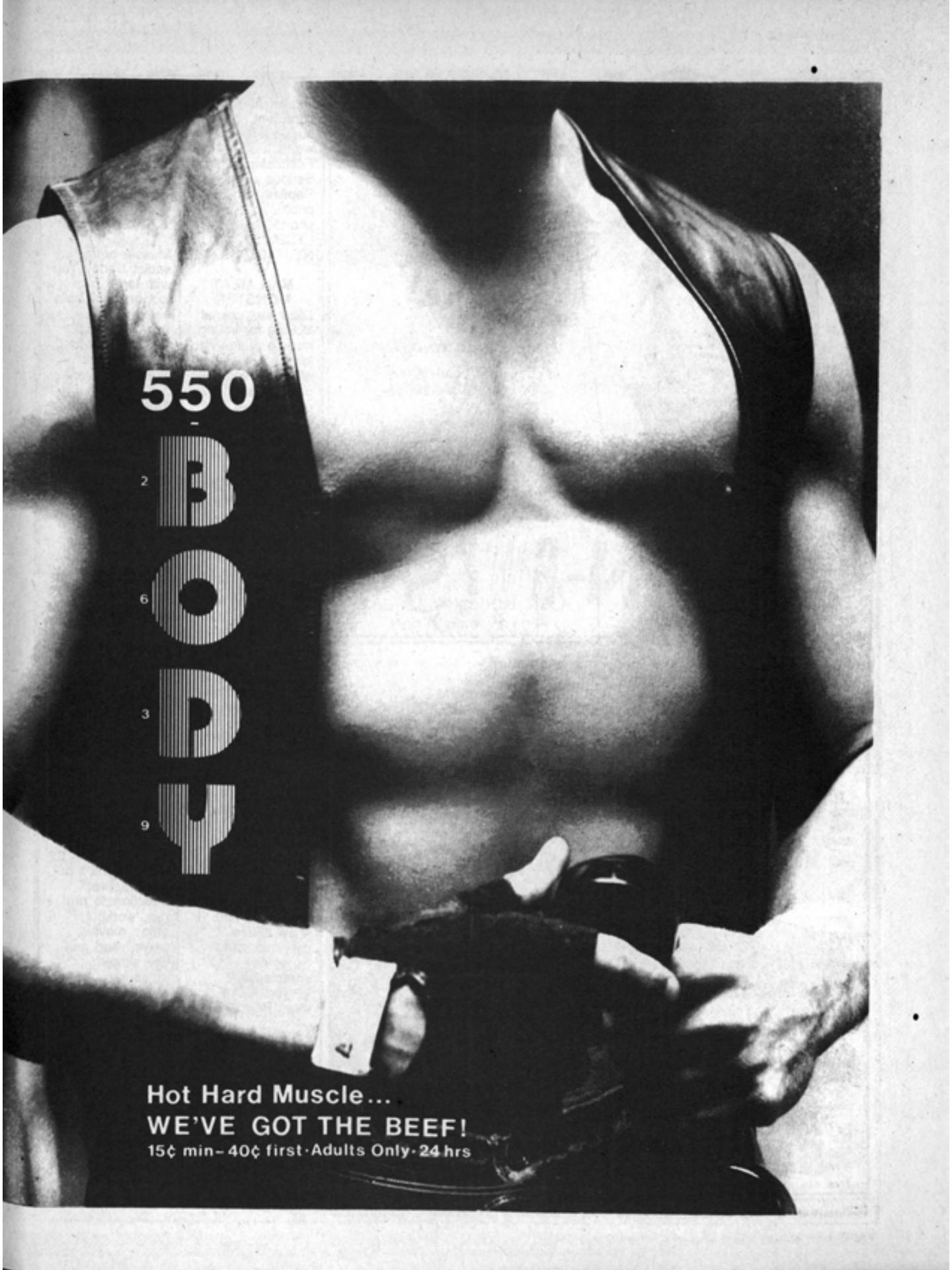
BROOKLYN ACTION
Packed Italian pants likes to feed hungry mouths. Xtra large balls and head, very butch, looking to be trained as a cocksucker. I only get down on my knees for the biggest. Send a picture of your prick to OutWeek Box 2760

VERY TALL - BROAD MEN
Who require really exciting service - top or bottom - by a hot WM, 34, 6'1", 185, vy hndsm, masc, wks out, +sinc. Please call to meet in NYC (no phone j/o) for regular sweaty explosive action and poss more: Roy (212) 675-7352.

BODYBUILDER GWM
38 195#, will use, abuse you just the way you want it. You are worthless and you know it. Safe sex only. Replies with explicit photo, letter of desire, phone # too: WL LTS20276, NYC 10011-9993

NICE GUY NICE BODY
Nice guy with nice body seeks like individual with passion for life and great sex meetings. No bullshit. Outweek Box 3285

SUPER MUSCLE GWM, 38 195# non BB wants



550

2
B
6
3
9
P
Y

Hot Hard Muscle...

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15¢ min - 40¢ first - Adults Only - 24 hrs

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FUN-GUYS
4 8 9

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Cowboy
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24 hours
7 DAYS

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- ② Hot stud romance
- ③ Hot romance Texas style
- ④ Special romance of the day

1-900
535-STUD

\$2 per minute / you must be 18



you for friend
confident,
possible lover if
we hit it off.
Friendship at first.
Serious only.
Replies with
photo, letter,
phone# too: SM
LTS20053
NYC 10011-9993

MAN MEAT MONSTER

Local sex animal
looking for young
muscle dudes into
long hot sessions
with soothing fish
oils and sand-
packs. Must like
Gregorian love
chants and
extended
vacations in
humid climates.
Outweek Box
3280

MUSCLE BONDAGE

Hot BB 28yrs 5'8"
175# 17A 46C
30W looking for
musc guy to tie
me up and wok
me over. Tight
inescapable
ropes, merciless
tormenting. Safe/
sane intense fun.
Photo/phone to
POB 966 NY NY
10113-0905

LOVESEXY
Jewish American
Prince, 26, 5'10",
160, seeks
literate creative
preppy for
repartee, friend-
ship, and maybe
a walk through
the purple rain. (I
know this is
perverse, but I'm
especially
attracted to
lawyers.) Out-
week Box 3278

GWM, 35 YRS,
BL, 5'11",
145 pds. Hand-
some, secure,
intelligent, likes
jazz, classical,
outdoors, politics,
The Fountain-
head, seeks GW
30-42 yrs that is

ready for a
monogamous
relationship only.
Ph/phone, letter,
serious only.
Outweek Box
3272

SADIST DADDY TOP

Muscle-bound
sadist Daddy Top
with large man
tool and bull balls
seeks passive,
submissive latin
fuck stud for long
hard butt ses-
sions and fierce
ball licking
therapy classes.
No slinkies,
femmes or
wannabes. Ph/Ph
to Outweek Box
3271

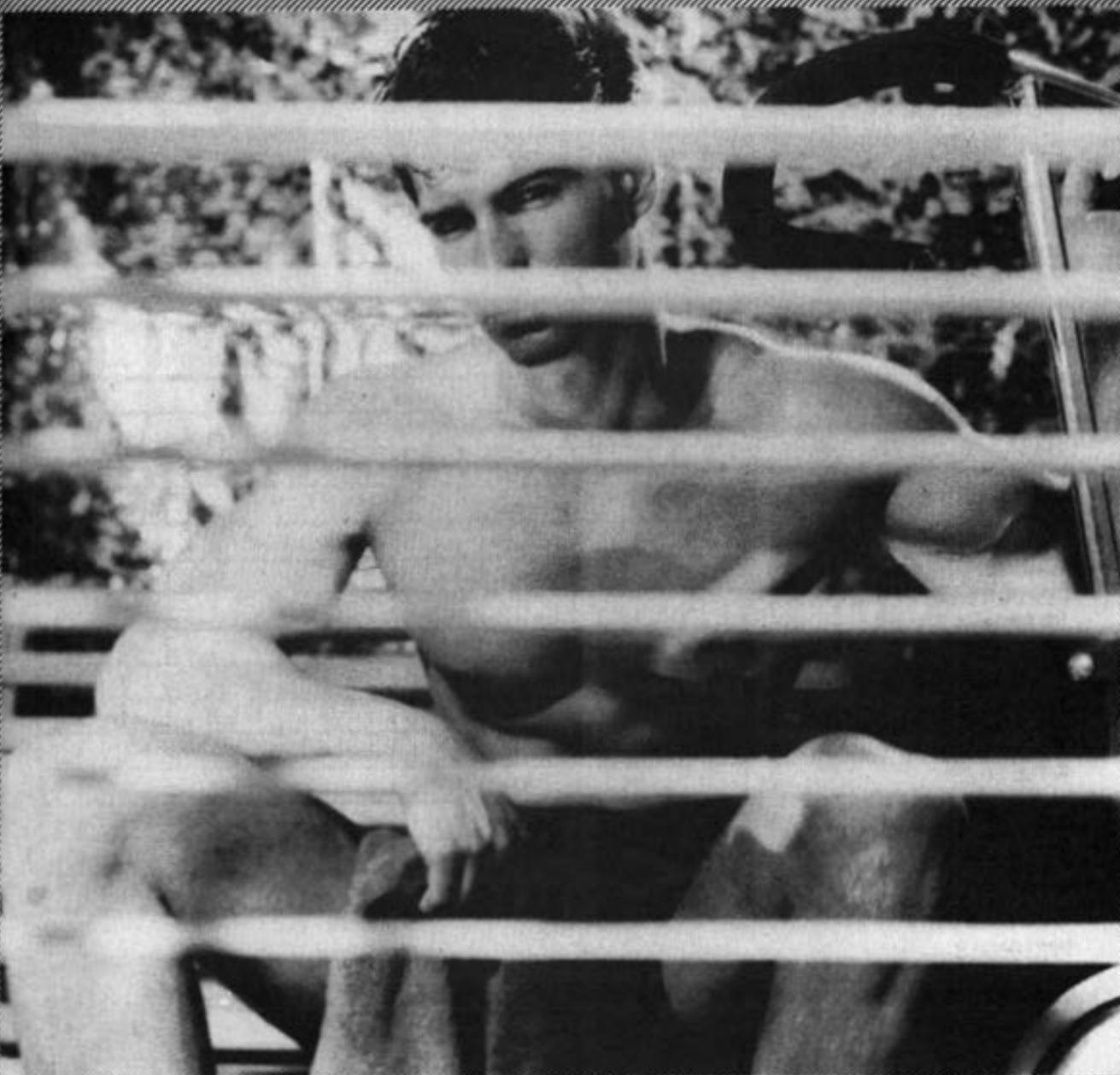
CAPITAL DISTRICT

two guys looking
for a third or
another couple for
dive-right-in fun
and games. We
like long, hot tit
plat, licking,
probing and
sucking. We are
both in our 30's,
furry, slutty and
have BIG
ONES— you
should too. Reply
to P.O. Box 1469,
Troy, NY 1218
1

FUN-LOVING BOTTOM

with a sense of
wonder for life. 32
5'9" 145 lbs. Attrac-
tive, affectionate prof. I
run, workout,
enjoy movies,
plays, read and
like simple
pleasures. Seek
top (pref. dark) to
share same. PH/
PH Box X3, 496A
Hudson St, NYC
10014. Let's get
together!

I WANT YOU!



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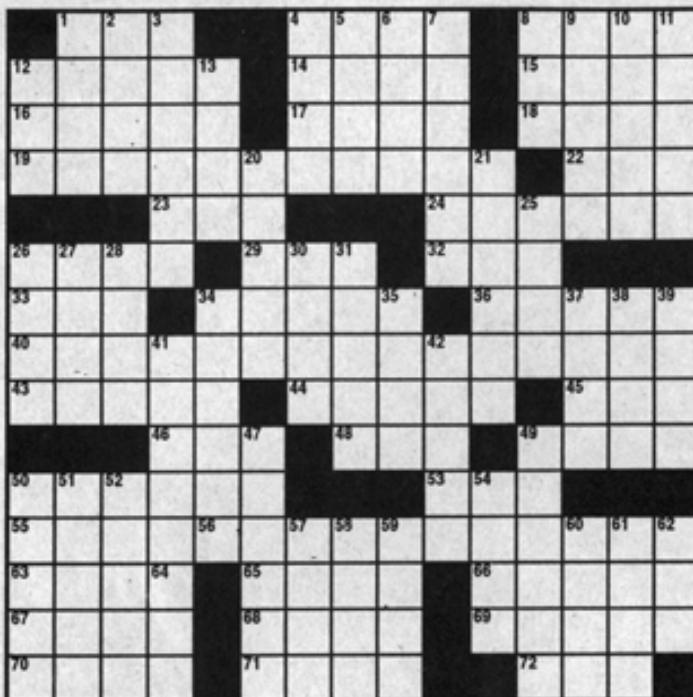
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OUTWEEK CROSSWORD

by Greg Baysans

Edited by Gerard Mackey



SOLUTION IN NEXT WEEK'S OUTWEEK—ON SALE MONDAY

ACROSS

1. Sun. talk
4. Cicatrix
8. Accord
12. Tribal symbol
14. Where the heart is
15. Brightly colored fish
16. Main artery
17. Rocker Billy
18. Hideaway
19. Beginning of a rhymed regret
22. Anger
23. Half of CXXX
24. Straight's partner
26. Reveal
29. Total
32. Energy Co.
33. Composer Brian
34. Singular people
36. Ours ____ to wonder why....
40. More of rhyme
43. Varnish ingredient
44. Stories
45. Princess problem
46. Early film studio

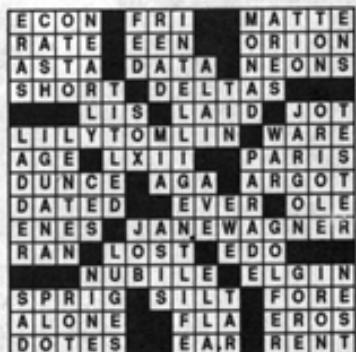
DOWN

48. Dental ____
49. *Frau's* mate
50. Hose support
53. Hominid
55. Old French coin
56. End of rhyme
63. Tune
65. Erstwhile
66. Venerate
67. Kilmer subject
68. On cloud ____
69. Tighten a shoe
70. Ending for off
71. "One small ____ for a man...."
72. Cub Scout unit

1. Presently
2. Fr. I verb
3. Fix a floor
4. Dagger: sl.
5. Area or zip
6. God of love
7. Abate
8. Dem. or Rep.

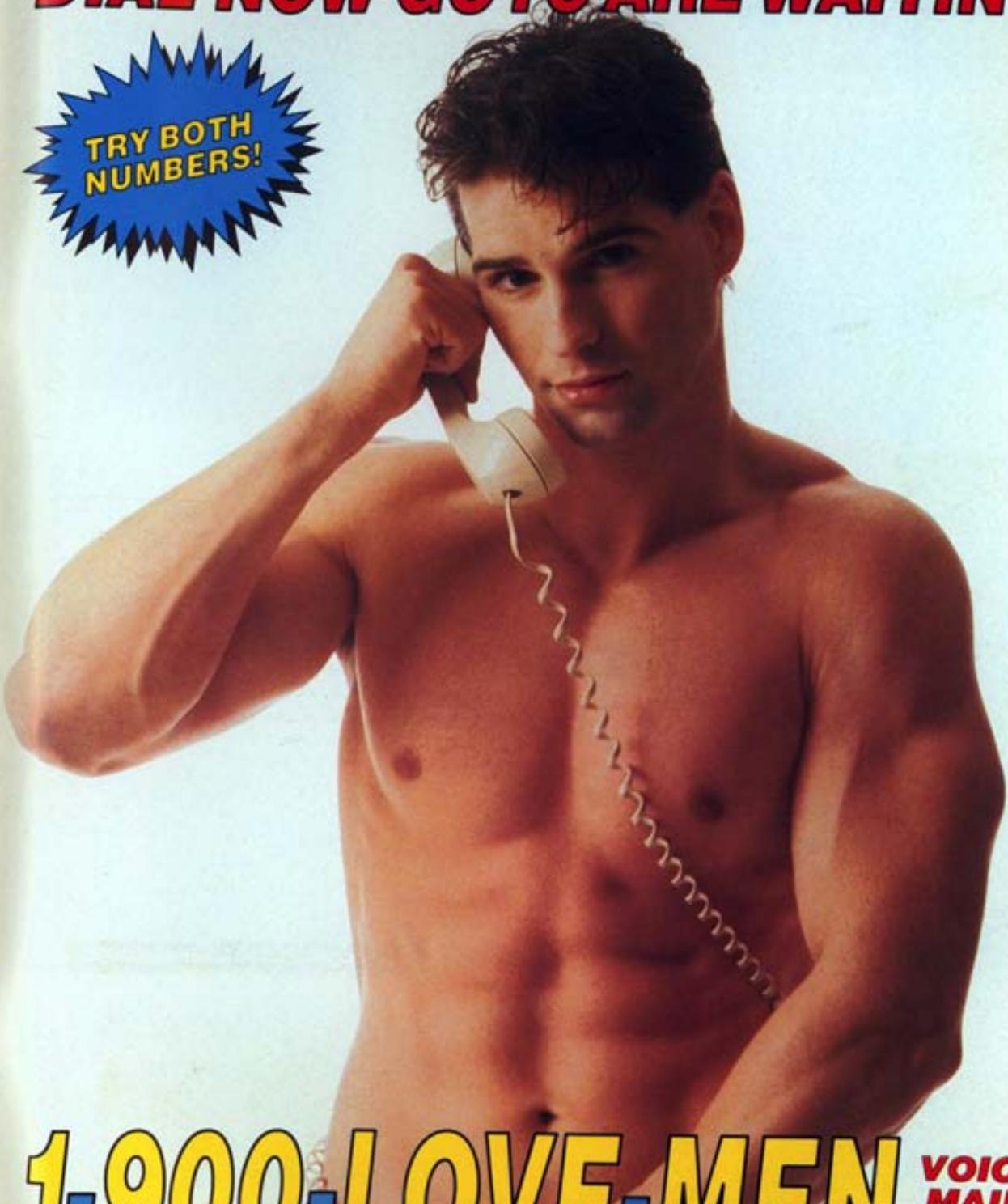
9. ____ of tens (poker holding)
10. Mubarek's capital
11. Tossed
12. Chinese philosophy
13. Karl or Groucho
20. Novak's partner
21. Niven and Frost
25. Imprudent
26. Ursine creature
27. Prince Andrew's sister
28. Fisher's needs
30. Arrears
31. Fear
34. Squealed, as a pig
35. Room in a *casa*
37. Scruff
38. Finished
39. Saline droplet
41. Trumpeter Al
42. Chart anew
47. Belonging to a mythical hunter
49. Bull____ (stubborn)
50. *Beau* ____
51. Oak's seed
52. Ancient alphabetic characters
54. Bosc or Anjou
57. Anagram for tins
58. Teen's problem
59. Chirp
60. Fixed routine
61. ____ go bragh
62. Poor grade
64. Turn to the right

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE



DIAL NOW GUYS ARE WAITING!

TRY BOTH
NUMBERS!



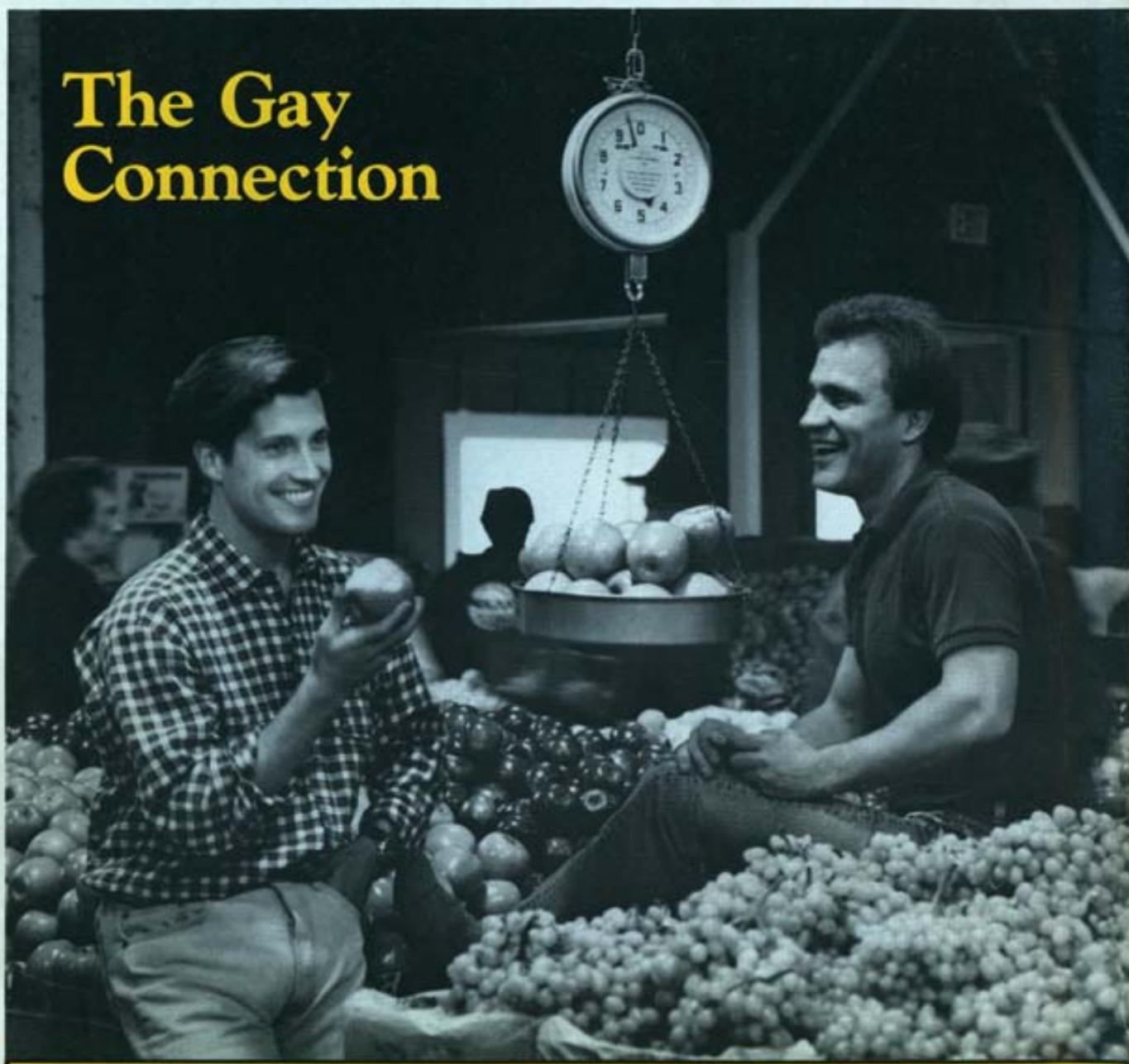
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